FBIS
DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

29 OCTOBER 1980

American Hostages

Emerging from a closed-door session of the Majlis held on the morning of 29 October, several deputies told AFP that a public debate would be held on 30 October at which a final decision on the hostages would be made. Other deputies informed the agency that a second public session might be needed to resolve the issue.

Western news agencies reported that the Majlis has added conditions for the release of the hostages in addition to the four set by Ayatollah Khomeyni. The West German press agency DPA, citing a Hamburg television news report, said the deputies serving on the Special Commission on the hostages decided to demand that the United States promise to broadcast a 3-hour television transmission from the Majlis to give Iran the opportunity to state its case to the American people. According to the Hamburg report, once this is done the first group of hostages will be released, and they will be followed by the second group when the remaining conditions are met. The report also noted that while some deputies want to conclude the debate on the hostages issue after the U.S. presidential elections, the majority are in favor of a quicker resolution of the question under the five conditions to be set.

In a variant report, the Spanish news agency EFE said the Majlis at its meeting on 26 October added two demands to those set by Ayatollah Khomeyni: that the United States withdraw its warships and AWACS aircraft from the Persian Gulf and that it issue an official declaration "condemning" past U.S. policies toward Iran. According to the agency, these conditions were confirmed by two Majlis deputies, one of them Mohammad Bahonar, a former minister in the Bazargan government.

An unattributed commentary carried by Tehran radio's Arabic service denied that Iran had concluded a "secret deal" with the United States for the return of the hostages. While noting that it was "never intended to keep the hostages in Iran forever," the commentary said the United States must meet "several specific conditions"; otherwise, "nothing will take place." According to the commentary, Iran's conditions are "clear and easy to fulfill" and "not negotiable," and they include a demand that the United States "admit its crimes."

In a 63-minute speech given to Majlis deputies on 28 October on the occasion of 'Id Ghadir, carried by Tehran radio, Ayatollah Khomeyni made no reference to the hostages issue.

Iraq-Iran Conflict

Khomeyni Speech--In his 28 October speech to the Majlis deputies, Ayatollah Khomeyni reiterated several times that Iran cannot and will not negotiate with an Iraqi leadership that heads what he considers to be an anti-Islamic government and that has "martyred" its own people and committed unprecedented "crimes" against Iran. Summing up his attitude toward negotiation, Khomeyni said: "Are we expected to abandon Islam and sit at a negotiating table? We who lost so many youths on Tehran's streets and in other cities shall not compromise, even if all powers lend a supporting hand to his filthy person [Saddam Husayn]. Our nation will pursue its goal till it reaches it. Our youth and our people, men and women, are after their aims and targets and will not compromise with any power or any superpower."

Khomeyni referred to President Carter in the context of comparing the attitudes and activities of the Iranian leaders with those of other countries, specifically the United States and Iraq, saying: "Which war front has Mr Carter been on? He is sitting in his White House, in his country palace, and sending those around him to war and to get killed, saying serve me even if you die."

Nonaligned Mediation--In an interview with the Yugoslav news agency TANJUG, PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat said that his proposal for a nonaligned committee to examine the Iraq-Iran conflict was "perhaps" the outcome of his visits to Baghdad and Tehran. He stressed that the members of the committee to be formed are not "intermediaries" but constitute only a "good-will mission" whose purpose is to ascertain the facts. Nevertheless, 'Arafat told TANJUG that they hope to bring about a cease-fire. In a letter to most of the nonaligned countries, carried by PARS, President Abolhasan Bani-Sadr said he "expects" their governments to condemn the Iraqi invasion and to "support" Iran's "legitimate position" in the conflict out of respect for the tenets of the nonaligned movment.

King Husayn Baghdad Visit--King Husayn visited Baghdad on 27 and 28 October for discussions with President Saddam Husayn, but monitored Jordanian and Iraqi media did not report the trip until the king had returned to Amman. According to Amman radio, the two sides assessed the war's repercussions and political developments on the Arab and international levels and King Husayn was given a briefing on the military situation. The radio said Saddam Husayn expressed Iraq's appreciation for the fact that Jordan has come forth and "unsheathed its sword" while other Arabs have taken a "different" stand, and for its "mature behavior in these critical circumstances" in which it has sided with Iraq "regardless of who is the victor." According to the radio, King Husayn responded by saying that Jordan will stand by Iraq with "all its resources."

Military Situation--Tehran radio reported that Iranian forces continue to prevent Iraqi troops from penetrating into the eastern part of Khuninshahr (formerly Khorramshahr) and that the Iranian Air Force has "crushed" the positions of Iraqi forces besieging Abadan. In a statement to ATH-THAWRAH, reported by INA, Iraqi Defense Minister 'Adnan Khayrallah said that a recent Iranian counterattack on the forces surrounding Abadan had been a "total loss" to the enemy and that those who made the decision to attack had "pushed" their infantry into a "clear massacre." In a speech given in front of the Majlis deputies and the Council of Ministers on the 'Id Ghadir anniversary, Majlis Speaker Hashemi Rafsanjani said that the Majlis is "anxious" that the "negligence and slackness" in the war against Iraq might cause "useless casualties" on the Iranian side.

Tehran radio also reported that Iraqi forces suffered "substantial losses" in fighting near Hamid on the Ahvaz-Khuninshahr highway and that fighting was continuing on the Ahvaz-Abadan road in the Mared region. On other battlefields, the radio claimed that 330 Iraqis had been killed in a period of 24 hours in "one of the mountainous regions" on the western front and that Iraqi troops had been forced to withdraw to a position 23 km from Gilan-e Gharb in the region of 'Aliabad. The radio also noted successful encounters with the enemy in Sar-e Pol-e Zahab, Qasr-e Shirin, Ilam Province and the Mehran region and continued fighting in Sarab-e Garm, Dasht-e Zahak, Sumar, Kan-e Shab and Shur-e Shirin. According to an Iraqi General Command communique, carried by Baghdad radio, Iranian aircraft raided At-Ta'mim, Maysan and Kirkuk. Communiques issued by the Iranian Joint Staff, carried by Tehran radio, added that Iranian aircraft had also attacked Umm ar-Rasas and various military, communications and port installations in Iraq.

Saudi Arabia, Libya

A Saudi Arabian Foreign Ministry statement, carried by Riyadh radio, announced the severing of diplomatic relations with Libya. It said Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi not only has "prejudiced" bilateral relations between the two countries but has made "false assertions and fabrications" damaging one of the "pillars of Islam," the hajj, and "casting doubt" on Muslim religious practices. This, the statement said, Saudi Arabia could not "tolerate or be silent about," and this necessitated that it "take a position dictated by its Islamic duty." After announcing the severance of relations, the statement went on to assure the Libyan nation of Saudi Arabia's desire to preserve the ties between the peoples of the two countries.

The Saudi action was taken in the wake of a sermon given by Al-Qadhdhafi, reported by Tripoli radio on 19 October, in which the Libyan leader called for a "jihad" to "liberate Mecca" and its holy places from the "yoke of American occupation," places that have been "disturbed by the sound of American aircraft." King Khalid had also sent a telegram to the Libyan leader saying that by objecting to the Saudi use of AWACS aircraft, Al-Qadhdhafi has turned himself into a "spearhead against Islam."

Reporting the Saudi move, Tripoli radio's Voice of Arab Homeland accused the "ruling family" in Saudi Arabia of strengthening relations with the United States within the framework of implementing the "imperialist plot" in the Arab world under which the "Black House" has become a "sanctuary" for "reactionary regimes and their agents." According to the radio, the "mask" has now fallen from the face of the Arabs and Muslims "belonging" to the United States.

Libya-Syria Unity

Amman radio reported that Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi postponed a planned 28 October visit to Damascus during which he was to discuss measures to implement the decision to unify Libya and Syria. The radio cited "sources" as saying that Al-Qadhdhafi will set a new date for the visit.

Arab Foreign Ministers Meeting

Amman radio reported the opening in Amman of the conference of the "seven-member committee"--comprised of the foreign ministers of Iraq, Syria, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Algeria, the director general of the PLO Political Department and the secretary general of the Arab League--which was charged by the Arab social and economic council with "charting a unified Arab strategy for the next stage." Jordanian Foreign Minister Marwan al-Qasim reported that the atmosphere at the committee's first session was "good" and that all the delegations had demonstrated a spirit of cooperation. He noted that the views expressed by the Syrian delegation were the subject of "serious discussion" and that the speeches given during the session were "constructive and positive."

Israel

According to Jerusalem radio, Interior Minister Yosef Burg assured a Cabinet meeting that there has been no "softening" of Israel's position on the "substance" of autonomy during the recent talks in Washington. He stated that his delegation made no "concessions" and did not "elasticize positions."

The report also said the ministers "dissociated themselves entirely" from former Defense Minister 'Ezer Weizman's expression of support for President Carter. Finance Minister Yiga'el Hurvitz stated that the phenomenon of an Israeli politician endorsing a U.S. presidential candidate is "grave" and "unacceptable" and is liable to invite future U.S. "pressure and intervention" in Israel's internal affairs. The radio also reported that Prime Minister Menahem Begin leveled "sharp criticism" at Weizman.

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'ARAFAT RETURNS TO BEIRUT FROM BELGRADE 29 OCT

NC290805 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 0530 GMT 29 Oct 80

[Text] Brother commander Abu 'Ammar returned to Beirut at dawn today following a 3-day official visit to Belgrade during which he had successful talks with the Yugoslav president and senior officials on the latest developments in the Palestinian issue, the current situation and particularly the war that is presently raging between Iraq and Iran.

Moreover, Abu 'Ammar delivered an important speech at the expanded session of the 21st UNESCO conference in which he dealt with the principal topics of world sufferings, particularly the suffering of the Palestinian people under occupation.

ARAB FOREIGN MINISTERS MEET IN AMMAN 28-29 OCT

JN281912 Amman Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 28 Oct 80

[Text] The meetings of the seven-member committee were opened in Amman today on the level of the Arab foreign ministers.

The committee was formed by the Arab social and economic council during its session in Amman last July to draft an Arab strategy for the coming stage prior to proposing it to the 11th Arab summit conference scheduled to be held in Amman on 25 November.

First Session

JN282244 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 28 Oct 80

[Text] The seven-member committee ended its first session at 2000 today. The committee is commissioned with charting a unified Arab strategy for the next stage.

In a statement at the end of the session, Foreign Minister Marwan al-Qasim said: The atmosphere that prevailed in the committee's meetings was good, and we hope that it will continue as such. He added that all delegations have shown cooperation due to the size of the responsibility shouldered by the committee. He said: Through this committee, I hope to be able to achieve further solidarity both during the next Arab foreign ministers meeting and the expected summit in Amman.

He pointed out that Syria's delegation proposed views during the session and that they were the subject of serious discussion by the conferees. Other views were proposed by the Kuwaiti and Palestinian delegations. The speeches that were made were constructive and positive, and we hope that the committee will achieve solid grounds for the next Arab meetings.

The committee is expected to resume its meetings tonight. The following are taking part in the 3-day meetings: the foreign ministers of Iraq, Syria, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, and Algeria; the director of the PLO Political Department; and the Arab League secretary general.

Syrian Foreign Minister Address

JN290606 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 29 Oct 80

[Text] Speaking at the opening session of the seven-member committee meeting that began in Amman last night, 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, reviewed the current Arab and international situation and defined Syria's concept of a joint Arab strategy, submitting five points for discussion to prepare for this strategy. These points are:

1. Reassessment of the current Arab situation from all angles.

2. Reassessment of the general and incremental goals, in accordance with the Arab summit conferences' resolutions.

3. Reassessment of the facts in the arena of the Arab-Israeli conflict.

4. Definition of the ways to achieve the Arab strategy.

5. Reassessment of the international situation and its impact in the arena of the Arab-Israeli conflict.

The seven-member committee of Arab foreign ministers is scheduled to resume its meetings today, to study subjects related to the formulation of a strategy for Arab political action and to prepare for the 11th Arab summit conference, to be held in Amman on 25 November.

Press Statement

JN291244 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 29 Oct 80

[Text] The seven-member committee deriving from the Arab foreign minister conference and charged with charting a unified Arab strategy for the next stage ended its meetings in Amman at noon today.

The committee issued the following press statement:

In implementation of the resolution adopted by the economic and social council at its Amman session last July on the formation of a seven-member ministerial committee, which will be entrusted with the charting of a comprehensive strategy for confronting the Zionist enemy in the future stage, this committee met in Amman 28 and 29 October 1980, with the participation of the foreign minister of all member-states and of the Arab League secretary general.

During these meetings viewpoints in all fields were exchanged and all of the delegations submitted ideas. The committee decided to entrust Jordan and the secretariat general with the formulation of these ideas and their submission to it, when it holds a meeting in Amman on 18 November to discuss them, prior to referring them to the Arab foreign ministers conference for approval and before final approval by the Arab summit conference.

The radio team reports that the Arab ministers' talks reflected a spirit of brotherhood, solidarity and a sense of common responsibility, thus enabling the committee to shoulder its duties in formulating a concept of joint Arab strategic action that will be submitted to the 11th Arab summit conference, scheduled to convene in Amman on 25 November.

Committee sources mentioned that the ministers agreed on a working method that will guarantee discussion of all political and economic aspects of joint economic Arab action, the evaluation of all current circumstances and the employment of all Arab political and economic potential in the Arab nation's service, whether involving the fateful challenges or the challenge of building a developed and integrated Arab society in which all potential and pan-Arab efforts would contribute and in which all Arab countries would be included.

Saudi Foreign Minister His Excellency Prime Minister Sa'ud al-Faysal left Amman for home this afternoon after having participated in the committee's meetings.

ARAB PARLIAMENTARY UNION MEETS IN DAMASCUS 28 OCT

JN281334 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 28 Oct 80

[Text] Damascus--The Arab Parliamentary Union council held its second meeting this morning under Khalid al-Fahum, the president of the union.

During this meeting the council approved the financial report of the general secretariat. Then it proceeded to discuss the union's plans and the agenda for the coming period.

The union's general secretariat submitted a comprehensive plan for the coordination of union activities in domestic, Arab and international affairs.

AL-MAJALLAH CITES 'ARAFAT-AL-ASAD TALK ON SOVIET TREATY

LD281445 London AL-MAJALLAH in Arabic 25-31 Oct 80 pp 18-19

[Samir Shahin report: "Extracts From Secret Conversation: Syrian-Soviet Treaty Reinstates Joint U.S.-Russian Statement"]

[Excerpts] Parts of a conversation that took place between Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad and Abu 'Ammar 48 hours prior to the Syrian president's departure for Moscow to sign the Syrian-Soviet friendship treaty have filtered into political and diplomatic circles in Beirut. The leaked passages assume a political and historical significance because they reveal a critical and sensitive aspect of the course of events currently shaking the Arab area.

Informants have said that the 5-hour conversation primarily centered on the reasons and motives that prompted the Syrian command to conclude a treaty of friendship and cooperation with the Soviet Union. The conversation also dealt with all events in the area, from the Iraqi-Iranian war and to the plans proposed for solving the Middle East crisis, and particularly the expected European initiative.

The informants say that President al-Asad told Abu 'Ammar that the European initiative will lead nowhere because the solution it proposes is American and is a further step toward Camp David under a different guise. The Europeans are acting only as a facade, seeking to achieve oil gains from such a role.

Speaking to Abu 'Ammar very frankly, the Syrian president said, according to the informants: "By God, Abu 'Ammar, we have 40 years of experience in political activities and in struggle during which we have witnessed and experienced various types of efforts and endeavors to restore the usurped Arab rights in Palestine. During this long experience it has been proved to us that neither Israel nor the United States want to give back an inch of Palestine to its owners. All signs indicate that the European initiative will not give you that inch and that it will not succeed in returning the occupied Arab territories." Al-Asad added: "This long and rich experience has strengthened our belief that what was taken by force can only be retrieved by force. It is this conclusion that will not make me hesitate to bring Soviet soldiers to the Golan when the liberation battle calls for such action." It is said that Abu 'Ammar did not defend the European initiative but rather agreed with the Syrian president's view that it conceals an American solution and will not lead to the desired result. But Abu 'Ammar defended the political response to it by saying that the PLO is supposed to pursue political action in all fields and examine all the initiatives and solutions proposed to it.

It is also said that Abu 'Ammar supported the Syrian president's step of concluding the treaty with Moscow "in the event that President al-Asad sees this as the soundest way." He stressed the need for efforts to restore Arab solidarity, to which the Syrian president replied that Syria did not violate Arab solidarity and did not interfere in the internal affairs of any Arab country.

On the basis of current information and developments, certain Arab diplomatic sources in Beirut believe that the Syrian-Soviet treaty will entail a clash with the European initiative. Many of these sources say that the treaty will involve pressure to reinstate and resuscitate the 1977 U.S.-Soviet statement, which was tantamount to a U.S.-Soviet initiative containing specific conditions for solving the Middle East crisis which many Arab countries and the PLO accepted but which the Americans soon went back on under Zionist pressure.

The diplomatic circles base their analysis on several factors, which are:

1. Brezhnev's statement in the speech he exchanged with President al-Asad that "this treaty is for the sake of peace" and a TASS agency report that both presidents emphasized the importance of the treaty for the establishment of peace in the Middle East and that the treaty will enable Moscow and Damascus to work more closely for a settlement in the Middle East.

2. Moscow's assurances to the Baghdad and Tehran governments that the treaty is not directed against them. Reports of such assurances were circulated among Arab diplomats.

3. Syrian Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam's assurances to the Arab countries he approached regarding the treaty. Khaddam told them that the treaty's objective is to achieve a strategic balance with Israel and has nothing to do with inter-Arab disputes. Reports indicate that the Arab countries' answers differed.

But various observer sources in Beirut--Lebanese, Palestinian and diplomatic--are inclined to believe that the treaty has strengthened the Arab front opposed to the European initiative. This would sharpen the internal and external Arab conflict between the supporters and adversaries of the European initiative, a conflict that will be reflected in the Lebanese and other Arab arenas. The first sign of this was the postponement of King Husayn's visit to Moscow, a postponement which might lead to cancellation.

Official Lebanese and Palestinian quarters are almost certain that the Amman summit will be postponed in view of the escalation of the silent war between Damascus and Baghdad into a hot war of words. According to information available to the Lebanese authorities Saudi Arabia will nevertheless continue its efforts to convene the Amman summit as scheduled and to try to turn it into a summit of Arab reconciliation. But the authorities see no hope for the success of this effort.

PALESTINIAN OFFICIAL ESCAPES ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT

NC260605 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 0530 GMT 26 Oct 80

[Text] At 2100 yesterday the car of Brother Abu al-Walid al-'Iraqi, official in charge of the technical section of the unified security [title as heard], was the subject of a bombing operation by suspect forces known for their connections with the Zionist enemy and the isolationist forces. As a result of the treacherous bombing operation, two aides were wounded, one of them seriously, while Brother Abu al-Walid escaped unhurt. The revolution's security elements immediately encircled the scene of the incident and adopt the necessary security measures.

At 2130 yesterday the same suspect forces fired a rocket at a building inhabited by a Palestinian revolution official near Corniche al-Mazra'ah. One of the building guards was martyred and another was wounded. The launching pad was found. The revolution's security departments are conducting the necessary investigation.

JOINT FORCES' STATEMENT ISSUED ON ISRAELI INCURSION

NC281728 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 1615 GMT 28 Oct 80

[28 October statement by military spokesman of the joint forces' Central Command--read by announcer]

[Text] At 1415 today the Zionist enemy initiated artillery fire against the areas of Marj 'Uyun and Al-Qalay'ah, which are situated in the Zaghlah area in the eastern sector of southern Lebanon.

Reports from the south indicate that mechanized Zionist forces entered the occupied border strip area early this morning and took up positions in the (Tallat al-Bayyadh) area, Umm at-Tut, (Al-Wassan), Tallat Mirwahayn as well as the two townships of Hanin and 'Ayn Ibil. This is in addition to positions in Saff al-Hawa, (Tallat al-'Aridah), the townships of Al-Khiyam, Al-Muruj, (Tib'ah), Kafr Hamam and Kafr Shuba.

Reports indicate that at noon today a Zionist batallion entered the villages of Al-Wajdani and (Al-Majidiyah) and erected barricades along their roads. The reports confirm that the Zionist enemy has taken full control of the Al-Wazzani Spring, which is one of the Al-Litani River's tributaries. People coming from the occupied border strip say that Zionist workers were seen carrying electrical generators to the vicinity of the spring in preparation for utilizing the Al-Wazzani [for power generating purposes].

Reports from the occupied border strip indicate that the enemy's seizure of the Al-Wazzani Spring and adjoining territories is a prelude to the establishment of settlements in this area in a way similar to those established by the enemy in the areas of Al-'Udaysah and At-Tayyibah.

As is known Israel and its militia stooges have opened a special bureau for land expropriation purposes in the occupied border strip.

KUWAIT

FOREIGN MINISTER DISCUSSES ARAB SUMMIT PREPARATIONS

LD281111 Kuwait KUNA in English 1008 GMT 28 Oct 80

[Excerpts] Kuwait, 28 Oct (KUNA)--Before his departure to Amman Tuesday, Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad reviewed with the amir latest reports from Kuwait's diplomatic missions abroad.

The foreign minister outlined to the amir matters which will be discussed at the forthcoming meeting of the seven-man committee which will prepare for the Arab summit.

Informed sources here said Tuesday Kuwait's foreign minister will table proposals at the Amman meeting that would ensure Arab solidarity at this critical stage.

The committee meeting will discuss prevailing Arab differences, as well as the Iraqi-Iranian dispute and will seek means regaining Arab solidarity.

It will discuss proposals aiming to close existing gaps in Arab ranks and will attempt to bring together the conflicting Arab viewpoints, sources here said.

Shaykh Sabah will present at the conference a working paper indicating Kuwait's proposals for unified Arab action until the year 2000, those sources added.

SPAIN'S JUAN CARLOS ARRIVES FOR TALKS

LD251516 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1415 GMT 25 Oct 80

[Excerpt] Kuwait, 25 Oct (KUNA)--King Juan Carlos, monarch of Spain, arrived today for a visit to Kuwait on the first stage of a tour to include Japan and Indonesia. The Amir of Kuwait, Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad as-Sabah, with whom Carlos will have official talks tomorrow dealing with bilateral relations and issues of mutual interest, headed those who were at his welcome.

Meeting With Amir

LD261910 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0823 GMT 26 Oct 80

[Text] Kuwait, 26 Oct (KUNA)--King Juan Carlos of Spain held talks here this morning with the amir of Kuwait, Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad as-Sabah. Official sources said only that the meeting, in which leading officials from both countries took part, dealt with bilateral relations and the means of strengthening them and questions of common interest including current international problems. King Carlos and Queen Sofia arrived in Kuwait yesterday on a 2-day visit which is the first he has paid to this country. After leaving Kuwait, the king will go to Japan and Indonesia.

26 Oct Departure

LD261912 Kuwait Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 26 Oct 80

[Text] His Majesty King Juan Carlos I of Spain and Her Majesty Sofia and the delegation accompanying them left Kuwait international airport at about 1700 this evening. His royal highness the amir led those who saw them off at the airport. His royal highness the crown prince, senior officials and heads of diplomatic missions accredited to the State of Kuwait participated in the sendoff.

The minister of state for cabinet affairs made the following statement after the departure of His Majesty King Juan Carlos I:

At the invitation of his royal highness the amir of Kuwait, His Majesty King Juan Carlos I of Spain paid a visit to the State of Kuwait on 25 and 26 October. His majesty and Queen Sofia as well as the accompanying delegation were entertained by his royal highness the amir and the people and Government of Kuwait.

The great guest and his royal highness the amir held a meeting, during which they discussed the natural and developing relations between the two friendly countries and ways to consolidate and develop them for the benefit and welfare of the two peoples. A number of issues and topics of common concern were also discussed. The two sides held identical views.

The minister added: The two great guests and the accompanying delegation expressed their admiration and appreciation for what they saw of Kuwait's institutions in various spheres.

His majesty the visiting king addressed an invitation to his royal highness the amir to visit the Kingdom of Spain. His royal highness accepted the invitation. The date for the visit will be set later.

SAUDI ARABIA

COMMENTARY STRESSES STAND AGAINST AL-QADHDHAFI

LD282300 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 28 Oct 80

[Hashim Abduh Hashim commentary]

[Text] With full ethical, national and pan-Arab commitment to the holiest of holy places on earth and to the greatest and most comprehensive of religions, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia shoulders its full responsibility, as it has always done, with faithfulness and capability. It shoulders this responsibility in defense of the faith and in confronting falsehood, regardless of its source, and form, and aims. This country who want to play a frivolous game from harming this land, and is capable of spoiling the dreams of those who may dream of harming this land, and of frustrating the plans of the evildoers and their campaigns of hatred against us.

Yesterday, His Royal Highness Prince Fahd put the Council of Ministers in the picture and conveyed to the council members the directives of His Majesty King Khalid. This nation is in a position of responsibility and should in fact be a real and full partner in shouldering this responsibility. When the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia takes the appropriate measures in reply to Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi and stands against his rabid campaign against the Islamic faith, his malice toward this country, which resembles his malice toward other Arab and Islamic countries in the past, and his confrontation against any authority which works for the good of this nation and in the service of its interests, it does so out of its historic responsibility to this holy land and to the faith which God has fortified against the attempts of the so-called reformists and those who want to misrepresent the faiths, and those who have many affiliations. The kingdom also shoulders this responsibility out of its Islamic obligation--to safeguard the sanctities of this nation and to continue to provide safety and security to all those who come to Saudi Arabia.

The call by the Islamic Organizations and states for the necessity of declaring a jihad against Colonel al-Qadhdhafi and facing him with the utmost vigor and resisting his anti-Islamic stands are issues which have now taken on a priority character, and this nation should assume responsibility may be given to the malicious and vindictive to continue with their excesses and misleading attempts.

This country, while shouldering its responsibility and responding to this violent Islamic anger against this deviation from the history of the nation, is fulfilling its trust with honor and is strongly resisting all deviations. It will not leave the likes of Al-Qadhdhafi to tamper with the destinies of peoples, misrepresent their faith, and harm their history. When doing all this, the kingdom appreciates the nature of the critical and urgent circumstances for correcting the wrong paths at a time when many conspiring forces are lying in wait for us. In return, this country would like to assure Muslims everywhere that this land, was, still is and will always be, God willing, the land of good and the source of safety and security for this nation. God will never let this nation down as long as this nation remains committed to its faith, strong in facing falsehood, and capable of safeguarding its gains from the deception of the imposters and those who are power-mad.

We, here in Saudi Arabia, as we have always been, are pleased to be the servants of these holy places and shall spare no effort, money or sacrifice in defending them. We shall never allow Al-Qadhdhafi or those who stand behind him, whatever their power, to inflict harm on the faith and holy values and places of this Islamic nation. We have been silent long enough about the plots they hatch against this nation and we have put up with the pains caused us long enough. The Islamic nation has remained silent long enough in face of the foolish acts and words of the ignorant. This nation should play its role in the coming phase and declare to the world that it is a nation which will not allow itself to be maligned, and that nobody can harm it.

CUBAN SOLDIERS REPORTEDLY PRESENT IN LIBYA

LD290010 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 2230 GMT 28 Oct 80

[Text] Diplomatic sources in the Libyan capital confirmed that a state of resentment and anger has prevailed among all sections of the Libyan people at the statements of Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, in which he attacked the Islamic faith and the holy places.

The colonel's authorities have begun to prepare to confront the anger and indignation of the Muslim Libyan people. Informed sources in London state that Tripoli airport yesterday received Soviet planes carrying Cuban soldiers who resemble Arabs. They immediately spread out in the streets of the Libyan capital despite conditions of the special measures affecting Libyan towns since 18 October, when Al-Qadhdhafi announced his renunciation of Islam by slandering its basic tenets and sanctities.

The authorities of the colonel have been disarming sections of the armed forces out of fear that they might carry out a coup against Al-Qadhdhafi, who met secretly several times with the Soviet charge d'affaires in the Libyan capital. The authorities of Al-Qadhdhafi assisted by Cuban soldiers and intelligence men from the GDR search those who enter mosques for prayers. The colonel has issued instructions to ban the congregation for prayers in some major mosques in Libyan cities. People coming into London say that the feeling of isolation is gripping the Libyan authorities.

PRINCE 'ABDALLAH RECEIVES HABIB CHATTI

LD281335 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1113 GMT 28 Oct 80

[Text] Jidda, 28 Oct (SPA)--His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, second deputy prime minister and commander of the National Guard, at 1100 in his office in Jidda received Habib Chatti, secretary general of the Islamic Conference Organization.

Chatti reviewed with His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdallah the results of his recent tour of Baghdad and Tehran within the framework of the good will offices he is carrying out at present to resolve the conflict between Iraq and Iran.

UAE

EDITORIAL SCORES U.S. APPROACH TO INTERNATIONAL LAW

LD281037 Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD in Arabic 22 Oct 80 p 1

[Untitled editorial]

[Excerpts] U.S. officials, both senior and junior, who have spoken about the Iraqi-Iranian war, have suddenly remembered the principles of international law, rules of international dealings, and fundamentals of international legitimacy which, as Secretary of State Edmund Muskie said in an address to the Foreign Affairs Council in Chicago, must be respected. He said that the dispute between Iraq and Iran must be settled in accordance with these principles and the two established principles: First, the impermissibility of seizing the territory of others by force of arms and, second, noninterference in the internal affairs of other countries.

Undoubtedly we share with the secretary of state and all the other U.S. officials their concern for international law and the fundamentals of international legitimacy but we would like to emphasize to them that international legitimacy is an indivisible whole that applies in all circumstances, in all cases, and in every place. One cannot speak from a legal and legitimate standpoint and measure things in double standards or talk about law and its rules when it is in one's own favor and turn a blind eye to this law when it is not in one's favor.

No doubt Mr Muskie and those in his department who studied the principles of law realize that the integrity of the precept of legality is one of the most important characteristics of law. It is no secret to Mr Muskie that his country, and particularly his department, talks a great deal about international law but seldom adheres to it or complies with it, particularly when this law is connected with Israel and its aggressions against the Arab territories and Palestinian rights.

In fact the statements of many so-called senior U.S. officials and the documents of the State Department itself contain statements that implicitly or explicitly violate the principle of "the impermissibility of the seizure of the territories of other countries by force" in regard to Israel.

And not just this; there is also a wide discrepancy between U.S. statements and U.S. policy toward Israel and U.S. aid to Israel that enables it to commit aggression, to expand, and to colonize.

JORDANIAN KING PAYS 2-DAY OFFICIAL VISIT

JN281738 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1600 GMT 28 Oct 80

[Excerpts] His Majesty King Husayn ibn Talal ended an official 2-day visit to Iraq today made at the invitation of Field Marshal Saddam Husayn, commander in chief of the armed forces.

His Majesty King Husayn was accorded a sendoff. President Saddam Husayn led those who saw His Majesty King Husayn off.

President Saddam Husayn had received His Majesty King Husayn ibn Talal yesterday morning.

During the meeting, the president expressed the pride of the Iraqi Government and people in the fraternal and pan-Arab stand adopted by fraternal Jordan, affirming that such a stand reflects the fateful cohesion of the Arab nation in its defense of its legitimate rights.

The presdient acquainted His Majesty King Husayn with the heroic feats which our valiant forces have achieved and are still achieving on the battle fronts, the high morale enjoyed by the sons of our armed forces and the high spirits of the citizens, who have always been symbols of sacrifice and valiant stands.

The president lauded the brave stands adopted by His Majesty King Husayn, pointing out that as is its custom, Iraq is today standing in defense of the Iraqi and Arab right against the ambitions of tyrants.

King Husayn reiterated Jordan's complete support for the Iraqi stand, affirming that the battle which Iraq is waging today is the battle of the entire Arab nation. Thus, the king pointed out, this battle represents a step in the Arabs' renaissance, the building of self-confidence and the achievement of the aspirations for a bright future.

His majesty stated that this battle has led to the cohesion of Iraq and Jordan, which should be the case where the relations of two Arab countries are concerned.

President Saddam Husayn and His Majesty King Husayn ibn Talal held a closed meeting last night.

During the meeting, discussions on issues which were brought up yesterday morning and which pertain to the developments of the situation on the eastern flank of the Arab homeland and the victories achieved by our valiant forces on the fronts of fighting against the racist Persians were concluded.

Relations between the two fraternal states and the areas of their promotion in order to serve the Arab people's interest and bolster this people's struggle, were also discussed.

President Saddam Husayn hosted a big luncheon banquet at noon yesterday in honor of His Majesty King Husayn ibn Talal and the delegation accompanying him.

Field Marshal Saddam Husayn, commander in chief of the armed forces, and his brother King Husayn ibn Talal visited the war booty exhibition this morning.

The president and his guest acquainted themselves [words indistinct], which were seized by our valiant forces from the Persian enemy and included several of the most sophisticated U.S. and British tanks, armored personnel carriers and the field command positions.[as heard]

His Majesty King Husayn ibn Talal arrived in Baghdad yesterday at the head of a delegation on a visit to Iraq at the invitation of President Saddam Husayn.

His Majesty King Husayn was accorded an official welcome. 'Izzat Ibrahim, vice chairman of the Revolution Command Council, led those who welcomed His Majesty King Husayn.

RAMADAN MEETS WITH JORDAN'S BADRAN 27 OCT

JN282240 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 28 Oct 80

[Text] Taha Yasin Ramadan, Revolution Command Council [RCC] member and first deputy prime minister, met with Jordanian Prime Minister Mudar Badran last night. The meeting was attended by Tayih 'Abd al-Karim, RCC member and oil minister; Hasan 'Ali, RCC member and trade minister; Fadil Husayn, minister of housing and construction; and the under secretaries of the Ministries of Foreign Affairs, Oil, Transport and Communications.

At the outset of the meeting, the first deputy prime minister welcomed the Jordanian prime minister, stressing the importance of such meetings and visits because they contribute to the exchange of viewpoints and consolidate the relations between the two fraternal countries. These meetings and visits are also important in confirming Arab solidarity.

The first deputy prime minister added that cooperation between the two fraternal countries represents integrated links in their joint political and economic coordination, particularly since this cooperation has currently assumed a pan-Arab dimension as a result of Jordan's honorable attitudes toward Iraq's just war against the Persian enemy.

Mudar Badran asserted that Jordan--government and people--is doing its best to rise to the level of pan-Arab responsibility toward the Arab nation's battle against the racist Persian enemy.

During the meeting, the two sides discussed the situation on the eastern borders of the Arab homeland and the great victories being scored by our valiant forces over the racist enemy. They also discussed the means necessary to develop the economic and technical relations between the two countries in a manner that will serve and achieve the pan-Arab objectives in confronting all challenges and dangers engulfing the Arab arena.

ARMED FORCES GENERAL COMMAND COMMUNIQUES 28-29 OCT

Communique No 109

JN281734 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1713 GMT 28 Oct 80

[Communique No 109 issued by the Iraqi Armed Forces General Command on 28 October 1980]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate:

Our fighters' morale and will are intensified with every victory scored over the forces of the racist Persian enemy, which are driven by the myths of charlatan Khomeyni. Our hero soldiers, who have taught the enemy the lessons he deserves, continue to deal blows to him until he realized his plight.

The results of our battles waged this afternoon against this ignorant enemy are as follows:

I. The ground forces:

A. Known enemy losses:

1. In personnel: Seven killed.
2. In equipment: One vehicle was destroyed; three vehicles were captured, two of which were loaded with supplies; and one fighter plane was shot down in the central sector of the theater of operations.

B. Our losses:

1. In personnel: Two martyrs.
2. In equipment: Two vehicles and one 106-mm gun were hit.

II. The air forces:

Enemy planes raided civilian targets. Our ground defenses intercepted them, forcing them to flee as follows:

A. At 1055 enemy planes raided At-Ta'mim Governorate, aiming at residential areas.

B. At 1155 enemy planes raided (Al-Musharrah) village in Maysan Governorate.

C. At 1330 enemy planes raided Kirkuk, aiming at civilian installations.

D. Our losses: Two martyrs; two civilian cars were destroyed in Maysan Governorate.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 28 October 1980

Communique No 110

JN290911 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 0855 GMT 29 Oct 80

[Communique No 110 issued by the Iraqi Armed Forces General Command on 29 October 1980]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate:

The heroism that our great army's fighters are demonstrating day after day has dissipated charlatan Khomeyni's racist dreams. Our forces' continued blows at the enemy will put an end to the arrogance and recklessness of the ignorant Persians' regime. The outcome of our fighting against the enemy last night and this morning is as follows:

I. Known enemy losses:

A. In personnel: 15 killed.

B. In equipment:

1. Four tanks, two guns, one personnel carrier, and one cylindrical launcher [as heard] were burned and destroyed.
2. Eight vehicles of various types were burned and destroyed.
3. Two vehicles loaded with supplies were destroyed.
4. One artillery battery was completely destroyed.

C. In aircraft: One Phantom was downed in the central sector of the theater of operations.

II. Our losses:

A. In personnel: Eight martyrs.

B. In equipment: Two vehicles were burned and one vehicle and one 106-mm gun were damaged.

C. In aircraft: One helicopter went down in enemy territory as a result of a technical malfunction. Its two heroic pilots returned safely to our forward units.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 29 October 1980

DEFENSE MINISTER COMMENTS ON IRANIAN COUNTERATTACK

JN282028 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1935 GMT 28 Oct 80

[text] Baghdad, 28 Oct (INA)--Staff Gen 'Adnan Khayrallah, deputy commander in chief of the Iraqi Armed Forces and defense minister, has stated that the Iraqi fighters have recorded unique heroic epics in the battles that raged in Al-Muhammarah [Khorramshahr]. He described the results of the Al-Muhammarah epic as splendid, adding that the Iraqi forces have aborted the enemy's plans and calculations.

In a press statement to the ATH-THAWRAH team during a tour of one of the battlefronts, the defense minister said that fighting in towns requires high combat efficiency and experience. Such fighting is much more difficult than regular fighting.

The defense minister said that the Iranian counterattack which was launched a few days ago on the Iraqi forces who are besieging Abadan was a total loss to the enemy.

He added that those who pushed their forces into this battle are not concerned over their fighters because there is no logical military explanation for pushing these forces into a battle whose results were known in advance.

He described the Iranian attack as stupid. He did not rule out the possibility that the attack might be a result of a preplanned scheme to annihilate the Iranian forces.

The defense minister said: Those who took the decision to attack us were motivated by a rancor against their fighters because they actually pushed their infantry forces--officers, NCO's and tanks--into a clear massacre. He added that the above-mentioned decision shows a decline in the nationalism of those who made the decision as well as showing their disregard of man's value.

HADDAD MEETS WITH ALF FIGHTERS LEAVING FOR FRONTLINES

JN281616 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1555 GMT 28 Oct 80

[Excerpt] Baghdad, 28 Oct (INA)--Na'im Haddad, Ba'th Party National Command member and official in charge of the Palestine and Armed Struggle Office, has reiterated that Iraq, with its steadfast sons, its valiant ideological army and the heroic cohesion of the Arab nation's sons, is capable of scoring successive victories not only in its current battle against the racist Persians but also in all future battles against the imperialists, Zionists and racists--the enemies of the Arab nation.

This came during Haddad's meeting with the Arab Liberation Front fighters and those of the Arab student organizations here today on the occasion of their departure to the frontlines. Haddad conveyed President Saddam Husayn's greetings and appreciation to the fighters regarding their honorable pan-Arab stands.

DAILIES DENOUNCE CONTACTS BETWEEN U.S., IRAN

AL-JUMHURIYAH Commentary

LD281019 Baghdad AL-JUMHURIYAH in Arabic 19 Oct 80 p 2

[Salih Sulayman article: "Carter Employs Raja'i in His Election Campaign"]

[Text] Never in the history of the United States or any other country has such an ugly zeal been displayed as that of President Carter in the campaign of mad hatred against Iraq. In addition to the secret contacts and the covert [exchange of] delegations, which have been betrayed by statements of U.S. officials, including Carter himself, the arrival of the head of the Persian regime in New York was turned into an "electoral" occasion. In an attempt to play upon the American people's feelings toward the hostages who are still held in Iran, Carter made a frenzied attempt to offer what he called a concession or, rather, an arms deal, in return for the release of hostages, although this, as recent reports indicated, was secretly agreed upon. In striving to defeat his opponent Reagan, Carter appeared weak and wretched, violating every human custom. While he is declaring an arms deal with the Persian regime, which is fighting a war with Iraq, in return for the release of 52 American hostages held in Iran, he is doing this at the expense of the lives and security of the sons of the Iraqi people in the hands of whose enemies he is placing these arms. Certain Western press circles pointed out that Carter has disgraced himself because for the sake of winning the elections he is doing what no other presidential candidate has done. Nevertheless, as far as we are concerned we realize that the United States in the era of Carter or of others has not been and never will be with the Arabs and with the justice of their cause. This has been the U.S. stand since the days of the architect of the U.S. aggressive policy, former Secretary of State Kissinger, who has once again declared that Iran is the natural ally of the United States, and is now during the days of Carter who is waging a reckless campaign against Iraq and who has considered the Iranian prime minister's presence in New York to be a new electoral card.

This is U.S. policy both old and new; it has not given up its hostility toward the Arabs and has not concealed its designs on the wealth of this nation. But during the presidential election such designs become even more evident and uglier.

ATH-THAWRAH Commentary

JN271146 Baghdad INA in English 0955 GMT 27 Oct 80

[Text] Baghdad, 27 Oct (INA)--The Iraqi leading daily ATH-THAWRAH said today the disclose of the fact that Israel is supplying Iran with arms and spare parts through Holland and with Washington approval, reveal the Persian Zionist conspiracy against Iraq under U.S. umbrella.

In a commentary, the daily said that America through Erica [as received] Stockman tried to put the blame on Tel Aviv for rendering support to Tehran's rulers which turned into a scandal.

The White House and Tehran rulers were keen not to talk publicly on the deal reached lately through more than a channel and a capital. The last touches were put during Iranian premier's visit to New York pretending to attend UN Security Council meetings, it added.

ATH-THAWRAH newspaper said the Zionists found the new Persian regime as a natural extension for the shah's aggressive and usurpation policy against Iraq and the Arab Gulf countries. Therefore the Zionist-Khomeyni deal is considered as a continuation of friendship between the two enemies of the Arab nation.

The Washington-Tel Aviv-Tehran axis is very clear now for everyone. Its tools and stooges in the Arab region are unable to cover it with their shouts and conspiracies, it added, and asked what Khomyni's allies in Damascus and Tripoli say about the new alliance?

ATH-THAWRAH daily recalled President Saddam Husayn's warnings of the dangers arising out of foreign interference in the existing war with the Persians, or creating atmospheres of animosity to prepare a Zionist aggression against Jordan while Washington increases its interference in the Arab Gulf within a plan set to internationalize the war.

Iraq has warned those countries taking side with Iran to have in mind Iraq's reaction because Iraq, while defending its rights and sovereignty over its territory and water, is not expected to stand still, ATH-THAWRAH newspaper concluded.

SYRIAN 'STUDENT VANGUARDS' SUPPORT IRAQ, DENOUNCE SYRIA

JN281746 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1625 GMT 28 Oct 80

[Text] Damascus, 28 Oct (INA)--Damascus University students have asserted that the Iraqi-Iranian war has shown the difference between real and fake Arabism.

The student vanguards in Damascus University issued a statement saying that the blood which was watered the soil of Arabistan [Khuzestan] in the battle of liberation is an extension of the noble Arab blood of the Iraqi fighters which was shed on the Golan Heights during the 1973 October war.

The statement greeted the Arab nation's martyrs who fell in the battle of honor and dignity being waged by the Iraqi forces against the racist Persian enemy. The statement said that the martyrdom of two Tunisian students has imbued our souls with pride and admiration because it expressed the noble pan-Arab course in this battle.

After strongly condemning the Syrian regime's treasonous stands, the students called on the Arab nation to support Iraq against the racist Persians. The students also called for overthrowing Hafiz al-Asad's dictatorial regime, which is dominating the Arab masses in Syria.

KING HUSAYN RETURNS FROM 2-DAY VISIT TO IRAQ 28 OCT

JN281311 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 28 Oct 80

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn and the members of his delegation returned home at noon today from a 2-day visit to Iraq during which His Majesty and President Saddam Husayn held a series of meetings.

His Majesty heard a briefing by Iraqi military commanders on the military situation and the victories achieved by the brave Iraqi Army to regain Iraq's historical and legitimate rights to its territory and waters and to put an end to Iranian ambition and arrogance as demonstrated by the Iranian regime's violation of all rights of good-neighbor relations. The two sides also made a general assessment of the Iraqi-Iranian war's repurcussions and political developments on the Arab and international levels.

During these meetings, President Saddam Husayn praised the Jordanian stand, which stems from fraternal solidarity and expresses the high values and Arab nobility in which Jordan believes. His excellency emphasized to His Majesty King Husayn, the beloved Jordanian people and the noble Jordanian Arab Army that Jordan and Iraq, which have acted on the basis of their pan-Arab obligation, affiliation to the single nation and sense of common destiny, are helping each other with complete faith, sincerity and loyalty.

President Saddam Husayn stressed Iraq's appreciation for the pan-Arab stand adopted by His Majesty King Husayn in supporting and assisting the Iraqi people and the true Arab spirit shown by the Jordanian people. He said: It is indeed honorable that one of the Arabs has come forth, unsheathed his sword and stood by his brother, while the others maintained a different stand. President Saddam Husayn said that history shall record that Jordan, under the leadership of King Husyan, has adopted Arab stands toward its brothers and made great sacrifices in defense of its nation and just issues. He said: Jordan can depend on Iraq's support in times of both adversity and ease, because Iraq--people and leadership--fully stand for the Arab nation's dignity, glory and victory. This is in appreciation of Jordan's noble and mature behavior in these critical circumstances in which it has decided to side with Iraq, regardless of who is the victor.

During his meetings with President Saddam Husayn, his majesty the king asserted: The Iraqi people's battle to regain its sovereignty over its territory and waters is the battle of the Arab nation because it is a battle of truth, honor, future and destiny. Victory on Iraqi territory will mark the beginning of victory everywhere on Arab territory. His majesty pointed out that it was an honor for him as a human being, more than as an official, to perform his duty and to sacrifice for the sake of the Arab cause and legitimate Arab rights everywhere in the great homeland.

His majesty expressed his regret that some Arabs have hesitated to stand with all their resources on the side of Iraq, which has never failed to perform its duty on all the battles fought by the Arab nation. The king said that the least Jordan can do is to stand by its brothers with all its resources. This, he pointed out, is the belief of millions of Arabs who, if given the opportunity to express themselves, would have amounted to a boundless resource. His Majesty said that the hostility, arrogance and haughtiness, which seek to fragment, divide and weaken the Arabs and liquidate their past sacrifices and long struggle, now faced by Iraq are also faced by Jordan on the other side of the great Arab homeland.

His majesty conveyed to President Saddam the appreciation of all the Jordanian people for Iraq's true and noble and Arab stand in defending its legitimate rights and complete sovereignty over its territory and waters. Iraq is the spearhead and shield of the Arab nation, and Jordan supports Iraq with all its spirit and conscience, he said.

His majesty was met at Amman airport by His Highness Crown Prince Hasan and a number of senior officials.

Cable of Thanks

JN281920 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 28 Oct 80

[Cable sent by King Husayn to Iraqi President Saddam Husayn at the end of the former's visit to Iraq on 28 October 1980]

[Text] His Excellency Leader-President Saddam Husayn, may God preserve him: I send you brotherly Arab greetings as I leave my second homeland, Iraq, for your second homeland, Jordan.

I was pleased to meet with you and witness the victory you are achieving with the support of the united Iraqi people. Your victory is a victory for right and dignity. It portrays a picture of the strong ties which bind the Arab people to their chaste soil and waters, for the defense of which the heroes are sacrificing their lives and blood. The brave people and army of Iraq are defending this soil and those waters in an epic of unity which is the beginning of a great victory for the Arab nation and a great national and pan-Arab upheaval against the incompetence, humiliation, desperation and weakness and their sources and causes in the Arab homeland and against any challenges confronting the Arab nation.

I once again express my happiness over having lived valuable hours with you, hours during which I sent you the greetings and support of the Jordanian Army and people. Our army has defended this Arab land. Its blood and the Iraqi blood were intermixed on this soil in defending right. In all the battles which we had to fight together, we were united with you. We stand with you at this historic juncture for the sake of God, the country and the Arab nation and also for the future. This historic juncture is a victory for the glory of future Arab generations, which will also know how to defend right and honor and how to protect the chaste land and raise aloft the banners of greatness and generosity.

Among the believers are men who have been true to their covenant with God: Of them some have completed their vow to the extreme, and some still wait; but they have never changed their determination in the least. [Koranic verse] And: Thereis no help except from God; and God is exalted in power, wise. [Koranic verse]. God is the guide of our march and He will lead us to success.

[Signed] Your brother, Husayn.

PRIME MINISTER BADRAN MEETS WITH IRAQ'S RAMADAN

JN281743 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 28 Oct 80

[Excerpts] His Majesty King Husayn and the delegation accompanying him returned home today following a 2-day visit to Iraq during which his majesty and President Saddam Husayn held a series of meetings.

On another level, Prime Minister Mudar Badran has met with Taha Yasin Ramadan, Iraqi Revolution Command Council member and first deputy prime minister, and discussed with him coordination and cooperation between Iraq and Jordan in the fields of development, industry, economy and trade. The meeting was attended by the Iraqi ministers of oil, trade and public works and housing; by the under secretaries of the Ministries of Transport and Communications, Foreign Affairs and Oil; and by the president of the Oil Products Marketing Establishment.

The prime minister also met with Foreign Minister Sa'dun Hammadi. They discussed the coordination of the political stands of the two countries, the meetings of the seven-sided committee and the preparations for the 11th Arab Summit to be held in Amman next month.

Arriving on the same plane with his majesty was Dr Sa'dun Hammadi, Iraq's foreign minister, to lead the Iraqi delegation to the meetings of the seven-sided committee.

AL-BAYRAQ LISTS COMPOSITION OF NEW CABINET

NC291117 Beirut AL-BAYRAQ in Arabic 27 Oct 80 pp 1, 7

[Excerpt] The new cabinet was formed and the decree on its composition was issued as follows:

Prime Minister, Minister of Interior	Shafiq al-Wazzan
Deputy Prime Minister, Foreign and Expatriates	Fu'ad Butrus
Minister of Defense	Joseph Skaf
Minister of Health	Dr Nazih al-Bizri
Minister of Justice	Khatchig Babikian
Minister of Education, Fine Arts	Rene Mu'awwad
Minister of Information	Michel Iddih
Minister of Economy and Trade	Khalid Junblatt
Minister of State	Joseph Abu Khatir
Minister of Post and Telecommunications	Engineer Michel al-Murr
Minister of Water and Electricity Resources	Engineer Anwar as-Sabbah
Minister of Finance	Dr 'Ali al-Khalil
Minister of State	Mahmud 'Ammar
Minister of State	Munir Abu Fadil
Minister of Public Works and Transport	Ilyas al-Hirawi
Minister of Industry and Oil	Muhammad Yusuf Baydun
Minister of State	Qaysar Nasr
Minister of State	Sami Yunis
Minister of Housing and Cooperatives	Salim al-Jahil
Minister of Labor, Social Affairs	Dr 'Abd ar-Rahman al-Labban
Minister of Agriculture	Dr Mustafa Darniqah
Minister of Tourism	Marwan Hamadah

TWO CABINET APPOINTEES SUBMIT RESIGNATIONS

Munir Abu Fadil

NC271246 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 27 Oct 80

[Text] A short while ago, we received a report saying that today at noon, Deputy Speaker Munir Abu Fadil resigned from his post as minister of state. Mr Abu Fadhil submitted his resignation to Prime Minister al-Wazzan.

Sami Yunis

NC281252 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT 28 Oct 80

[Text] Minister Sami Yunis today went to the presidential palace and told the president of the republic of a number of obstacles which prevent him from joining the Cabinet. He said after the meeting: I thanked the president for his valued trust and placed my resignation at his disposal. Thus two of the five ministers of state--Munir Abu Fadil Sami Yunis--have so far refused to accept their ministerial posts.

Al-Wazzan Comment

NC281739 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 28 Oct 80

[Text] Upon leaving Government House today Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan was asked about the resignation of Minister Sami Yunis. He replied: He did not resign. He informed us orally that he has placed his resignation at our disposal. This does not mean, either constitutionally or legally, a final resignation.

Asked whether there is an inclination to accept this resignation, Prime Minister al-Wazzan said: We are trying to tackle this issue. When we choose the brothers we hope to cooperate with, we do not abandon them easily. Asked about the security situation in 'Ayn ar-Rummanah, the prime minister said: The matter is being dealt with, and contacts are underway to bring the situation under control.

Asked whether he thinks the deterioration in the security situation was meant to coincide with the formation of the new Cabinet, he said: The security situation has been bad for a long time, before the formation of this Cabinet. We hope that the formation of this Cabinet will be a good omen.

ARMY COMMANDER INTERVIEWED ON MILITARY SITUATION

LD281111 London AL-HAWADITH in Arabic 24 Oct pp 14-17

[Interview granted by Lebanese Army Commander Gen Victor Khuri to Farid al-Khatib in Beirut--date not given]

[Excerpts] AL-HAWADITH: How far has the building of the army progressed and what are the obstacles facing it?

General Khuri: The process of building the army is continuing. It is based on three factors: numbers, equipment and morale. Numbers are increasing continuously, there are successive recruitment campaigns, and the training camps turn out 3,000 soldiers annually. The army now numbers 25,000 men, that is 8,000 more than in 1975. After the demobilization of some, 12,000 of these men are considered "new blood" in the army, among whom there are 500 new officers. We need many more of them because increasing the number of efficient officers means that the army will be better disciplined. The average age in the army was dropped from 37 to 30.

With regard to equipment, we have been able to ensure individual weapons and material for all personnel as well as some missile and heavy weaponry of which we hope to obtain more during the rest of this year and next year.

On the level of morale, no doubt you can see the cohesiveness of the army. Its discipline and national unity has been proved in more than one incident in the capital and elsewhere. We hope that the doubters and detractors have seen this for themselves and will give up their practices so as to spare themselves and the army.

At present we are seeking to fuse elements from various environments and classes and different allegiances in one melting pot so as to become a cohesive unit loyal to legitimacy and to Lebanon so that there will be one country, one army and one territory. The army has crossed the "red line" in military unification. The political machinery has been slower than the military machinery and thus military unification has overtaken political unification.

AL-HAWADITH: Why have you been unable so far to obtain sufficient heavy weapons?

General Khuri: You know that after the enactment of the defense law the role of the army commander became confined to defining the army's need and its specifications but the body that meets such need is the Directorate General of the Administration. We hope that this directorate will be given exceptional powers so as to be able to meet army needs after the war has destroyed the greater part of its equipment.

In any case we have fulfilled part of our need for heavy weapons and the number and quality of this type of weapons will be better than it is now at the end of this year and during the next year. There remains a major obstacle to speeding up meeting the need for heavy armament, namely increasingly high prices and the administrative bureaucracy.

AL-HAWADITH: When will the Cabinet's decision to deploy the army along the Lebanese coast and in all the areas from which the Arab Deterrent Forces [ADF] are withdrawn be implemented?

General Khuri: The nonimplementation of Cabinet's decision to deploy the army along the Lebanese coast and to fill the security gaps is not to be blamed on the army. The army took the necessary steps to do this but was surprised at security matters between Khaldah and Az-Zahrani being taken over by the Palestinian military forces. The citizen slept dreaming of "the Lebanese Army" deployed from Tripoli to Sidon but awoke to the fact of a "Palestinian army" from Beirut to Sidon.

Nevertheless, the army carried out the first clause of the Cabinet's decision which is to "charge the Lebanese Army with taking the immediate measures necessary to fill any security vacuum along the contact lines, in vital public utilities, and the various state departments and institutions." The army entered the areas of Sin al-Fil, Al-Hazimiyah and Galerie Sim'an following the ADF withdrawal and filled the security gaps on the contact lines.

AL-HAWADITH: You are in the crossfire between Sulayman Franjiyah, Bashir al-Jumayyil and Ahmad al-Khatib, dealing with this crossfire in the interest of legitimacy.

General Khuri: The fire of His Excellency [former] President Franjiyah and Shaykh Bashir al-Jumayyil can be silenced by a minimum national detente. But as for the fire of Ahmad al-Khatib, it does not exist; it is the fire of the Palestinian resistance which can be silenced by implementing the agreements concluded with it if the resistance abides by them. Otherwise, the national current and the popular support for the army, whose increasing strength we feel every day, are bound to silence all the fire which you talk about.

AL-HAWADITH: The "Lebanese Front" extremists accuse you of acting in a manner hostile to the front and in favor of the Palestinians. Does this bear any relation to the Middle East problem?

General Khuri: Every party in Lebanon wants the Lebanese Army to be its own army and if this were not so we would be regarded as allies of its enemies and adversaries. This is the case with everybody.

AL-HAWADITH: Sa'd Haddad asserts that he is linked to the army command and sometimes offers you the opportunity to take over command of the border strip. How do you deal with him?

General Khuri: Sa'd Haddad was dishonorably discharged from the army in accordance with a disciplinary sentence. He is no longer an officer in the army and has been referred to the judiciary. We look at him this way. He is not in command of the "border strip" area to be able to offer to hand it over to us. He is under Israeli occupation, albeit covertly, and therefore the "border strip" has become an international responsibility in addition to being a Lebanese responsibility.

Since 1975 and to this day Israel has been trying to subordinate the border citizen to its interests but we are certain that the feeling of this citizen is to reject Israeli occupation and to demand the return of legitimacy so as to look after his security and defend him against what he is experiencing now, something which the enemy knows very well. Therefore, the enemy asks his "mouthpiece" to call on the army to enter the area and to call for legitimacy as a means of dampening the citizens' anger in the "border strip," while refusing to allow the UN forces to reach the international borders.

AL-HAWADITH: Have the UN forces benefitted from your decision to send a new Lebanese Army force to the south following the battles between Haddad's forces and the UN forces about 3 months ago?

General Khuri: The balance of the military situation in the south is in the hands of the UN forces. We have placed the Lebanese force at their disposal operationally. Should the UN forces decide to take a certain action in order to establish legitimacy there they will do their utmost to implement the UN resolutions.

The contact between the Lebanese officers and men with the various UN units there has created certain sympathy with our problem and made the friendly states sympathize with our cause. There is a working team that meets every week for further cooperation. We have sought to prevent Israeli influence on the UN forces and we therefore provide 80 percent of their needs from Lebanon and they spend most of their vacations there.

AL-HAWADITH: The south is burning while you are at a distance from it. How can you shoulder your historical responsibility toward it?

General Khuri: The south is an Arab and an international responsibility as well as a Lebanese responsibility to which the Lebanese Army is paying its primary attention. The UN resolutions have been implemented by the Lebanese authorities in full and we have done everything possible in this direction, After Israel withdrew from part of the south and the UN forces took over this part but were unable to enter the "border strip," we have done all we can to save the south.

It appears to me that all the parties in conflict in the south, from the Israeli enemy to the rest of them, do not want legitimacy to return to the south and everybody thinks that southern Lebanon is the winning card or the "joker" in the game of solving the Middle East crisis.

A solution in the south is not purely military or Lebanese. It may be the crux of the problem. In the south all the elements of the Middle East crisis are represented. If the army is asked to solve the problem of the south alone it means asking it to solve the Middle East problem. Despite the difficulty and the critical nature of the situation we are still determined to build up our military capability in order to salvage our beloved south even if we remain alone.

AL-HAWADITH: You were unable to protect the American ambassador in the area where the army is deployed in Al-Hazimiyah. What was the outcome of investigation into this case?

General Khuri: So long as arms are not collected from the people and the resolutions of the Cairo and Riyadh summits are not implemented, security incidents like this are likely to happen. Even in normal circumstances, with the army in full control of Lebanon, incidents like this could happen. Similar incidents happen daily in every world country. It is impossible to station a soldier at every intersection and every house entrance. In any case, all I can say about the outcome of the investigation into this incident is that the U.S. security authorities are satisfied with the speed with which the investigation was able to obtain the necessary information.

AL-HAWADITH: Do you adhere to the 1969 Cairo agreement and regard the resistance as an army allied with the Lebanese Army stationed temporarily in Lebanon?

General Khuri: We are among those who are convinced of the axioms and principles of detente which the Cabinet approved and which the president announced, and we therefore demand the implementation of the agreements. We believe that their implementation is the only possible solution to the question of the Palestinian armed presence on Lebanese territory and its consequent local, Arab and international repercussions.

For this to be one, the Palestinian resistance must realize that the Lebanese Army is not conspiring and will not conspire against the Palestine problem and is not mobilized against it. On the other hand, the Palestinians are supposed to stop mobilizing themselves against the army, trying to find a substitute for it, and accusing every Lebanese party that supports it of being an agent. We realize that political activities must only proceed from national principles and dealing with the legitimate authority alone is the means that will enable the Palestinian resistance to support all the Lebanese and will not make it liable to clash with the rest of the Lebanese who are in its area. The resistance will them become the ally of the Lebanese Army and both will work together in confronting the "Camp David" strategy on Lebanese territory.

AL-HAWADITH: What are the limits of coordination between the Lebanese Army and the Syrian Army?

General Khuri: Contrary to what some may imagine, coordination between the Lebanese Army and the Syrian Arab Army is continuing and constructive. It is indeed necessary. In the field of operations coordination has been thorough and fruitful in several operational tasks, the most significant of which was the army's entry into the Furn ash-Shubbak and 'Ayn ar-Rummanah areas, and previously in the task of dispatching the army to the south.

In the field of training, we have scores of officers receiving training in different military schools in the Syrian Arab Republic. We are also proud to have a staff colonel from the Syrian Arab Army teaching the eastern military method to the Lebanese Army Staff College. Contacts and consultations are continuing in all fields of interest to both armies. There is evident coordination in the field of the Syrian forces' operation within the ADF in their security task in Lebanon.

LIBYA

TRIPOLI NOTES SAUDI DECISION TO SEVER RELATIONS

LD282234 Tripoli Voice of Arab Homeland in Arabic 2200 GMT 28 Oct 80

[Text] The ruling family in Saudi Arabia has decided to break off relations with the Arab people of Libya and has described them as heretics and unbelievers, at a time when it is working to strengthen its relations with the U.S. Government within the framework of implementing the imperialist plot in the Arab area, under which the black house is turned into a sanctuary for reactionary regimes and their agents. Thus, the mask falls from the face of the Arabs and Muslims belonging to the United States, leaving the revolutionary forces, the Arabs of Palestine and the Muslims of Muhammad alone in the arena.

AWACS REPORTEDLY DISRUPT COMMUNICATIONS, PRAYERS RELAY

LD282257 Tripoli Voice of Arab Homeland in Arabic 2200 GMT 28 Oct 80

[Text] A responsible source at the UAE communications company, (AMERCEL), stated that the cause for a break in outside contacts between the UAE and the United States, Britain and France was due to the spread of wavelengths emanating from Saudi Arabian territory. The source added that the wavelengths affected all telecommunications services in the area and also led to disrupting international telephone and telegraphic services.

The JANA correspondent in the Arabian Gulf noted that announcing the disruption in telephone communications between the UAE and some other states comes in the wake of the AWACS spy planes flights in Saudi Arabian skies where the planes are observing the area with extremely advanced and complex instruments. The reporter added that these planes previously disrupted the relaying of prayers on Mount 'Arafat via satellites to television and radio services in Islamic countries. The leader of the revolution in the speech on the occasion of 'Id al-Adha festival said that U.S. AWACS planes which occupy the skies of the holy places had led to disrupting the relay of prayers on Mount 'Arafat to Islamic radios. He demanded the liberation of the skies of the holy places from this unprecedented U.S. colonialism.

TUNISIA

TUNISIA ENDORSES SAUDI STANCE ON PILGRIMAGE

LD241738 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 24 Oct 80

[Excerpt] Tunisia, a Muslim country, is concerned about the prestige and safety of the holy lands and strives to respect the tenets of Islam, one of which is the concept of pilgrimage. It therefore must stand by the side of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and endorse the stance spelled out in King Khalid's cable. [passage indistinct]

Minister's Statement

LD252050 Tunis TAP in English 1432 GMT 25 Oct 80

["Tunisia Deplores Al-Qadhdhafi's Stand Concerning Islam's Holy Shrines"--TAP headline]

[Text] Tunis, Oct 25 (TAP)--Following the speech made recently by the Libyan head of state Colonel al-Qadhdhafi who said that the holy shrines are "under foreign occupation" and that "pilgrimages should be interrupted," circles close to the Tunisian Government find it regrettable that the statements of a Muslim head of state try to question the integrity of Islam's holy shrines.

These statements which, according to these circles, are meant to unsettle and trouble the faithful, can only serve to further divide the Arabs and Muslims, thus serving the cause of their enemies.

The Tunisian Government is attached to the integrity of the holy shrines and cannot but deplore such an attitude at a time when the Muslim world is most in need of cohesion and solidarity.

It is to be noted that after the delivery of the U.S. radar planes "AWACS" to Saudi Arabia, the Libyan head of state appealed for the interruption of pilgrimage, stating that Islam's holy shrines were "under foreign occupation."

The Tunisian home minister, Mr Driss Guiga, who is now performing pilgrimage rites and leading the Tunisian pilgrims' official delegation, expressed concern over the recent statement of Colonel al-Qadhdhafi.

In a statement to the daily ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT, Mr Guiga deemed it regrettable that the pilgrimage serenity be disturbed by an Arab leader's statements whose aims have no relations with "the genuine conditions in which the pilgrimage took place."

The minister said he performed all the pilgrimage rites, went to all the holy shrines and that he did not notice anything unusual which might indicate that a foreigner or a non-Muslim might have visited such places.

WESTERN SAHARA

COMMUNIQUE ISSUED ON 22-23 OCT ATTACKS ON MOROCCANS

LD290016 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 2300 GMT 28 Oct 80

[Text] A communique issued by the Saharan Democratic Arab Republic [SDAR] Defense Ministry said that the SDAR liberation army continues its daily attacks on the royalist Moroccan forces in the area still under Moroccan occupation. The communique said that the vanguards of the Saharan resistance units on 22 and 23 October attacked concentrations of royalist forces in Ras El Khannfra at Oued Draa, inflicting on them losses in men and equipment. Other units have shelled positions of the royalist invaders in Smara, Guelta Zemmour, inflicting on them heavy losses.

BRIEFS

ALGERIAN AMBASSADOR--The chairman of the Military Committee of National Salvation and president of the government, Lt Col Khouna Ould Haydala, yesterday received in audience His Excellency Mr Mohamed Zerguini, the new ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Democratic and Popular Republic of Algeria who presented his credentials. At the end of the audience, the ambassador told the press that he delivered a message of congratulations from President Chadli Bendjedid to President Haydala. They also discussed problems of bilateral cooperation raised by the Algerian-Mautitanian joint commission in Nouakchott. The commission was formed after the head of state's visit to Algeria. [Excerpt] [Nouakchott Domestic Service in French 0700 GMT 22 Oct 80 AB]

NEW SWISS ENVOY--Rabat, 16 Oct (MAP)--Mr M'hamed Boucetta, Moroccoan state minister of foreign affairs and cooperation, received here Wednesday Mr Max Casanova, new Swiss ambassador to Morocco, who came to present to him a copy of his credentials. [Text] [Rabat MAP in English 1223 GMT 16 Oct 80 LD]

CEAO SUMMIT CONFERENCE HELD IN NIAMEY 27-28 OCT

Kountche Opening Speech

AB272217 Niamey Domestic Service in French 1200 GMT 27 Oct 80

[Text] The solemn opening of the sixth summit of the CEAO [West African Economic Community] took place at the former national assembly. The opening ceremony was presided over by Col Seyni Kountche, current chairman of the CEAO, in the presence of President Senghor of Senegal, President Moussa Traore of Mali, President Khouna Haydala of Mauritania and also members of the Supreme Military Council and government, members of the diplomatic corps, representatives of international and regional institutions and a number of other invited guests.

In his opening speech, the chairman of the Supreme Military Council and head of state, Col Seyni Kountche, stressed the need for member countries of the CEAO to consolidate their achievements and their regional cooperation for the good of the community. The sixth summit of Niamey, he declared, should constitute a very important step.

[Begin Kountche recording] Fellow presidents, ministers, honorable guests, your excellencies, delegates, ladies and gentlemen, it is with great joy and deep pride that Niger and its capital welcome for the second time the conference of heads of state of the CEAO. The Supreme Military Council, the government and all the people of Niger are happy about the opportunity thus offered them to demonstrate in (?Niamey) the fraternal friendship and active solidarity which unite them with brotherly peoples of the Ivory Coast, Upper Volta, Mali, Mauritania and Senegal. Allow me to salute [few words indistinct] the numerous guests who have come from every direction to represent the international economic and financial institutions, which are always present at the rendezvous of history wherever there is endeavor to promote the spirit of union and integration of fraternal countries. We would like them to know that we highly appreciate their presence among us, and we consider this as a sign of great interest in our community.

Fellow presidents, during our last meeting in Niamey, our community's institutions had hardly started organizing themselves. Now they have developed and--taking a look at their cruising speed--we see that they have attained a remarkable level of credibility which transcends the limits of Africa. Thus, the process of cooperation and integration which our six governments decided to initiate on 17 April 1973, in signing the Treaty of Abidjan to create the CEAO, has gone into full swing. This sixth summit constitutes a very important step toward the goal we have set ourselves. Indeed, the treaty provided for the establishment of an initiated regional economic grouping [few words indistinct] the tasks which await us during the coming years seem more difficult and can only be tackled successfully through sustained effort and many more sacrifices, since the international economic outlook has since changed for the worse.

The era at the birth of our community was one of hope for developing countries. For the first time since the beginning of industrial civilization, the year 1973 was dominated by an outburst of resolute action by producers of primary commodities to put an end to the continued plundering of their commodities and the deterioration of the terms of trade and an international monetary system which functions in favor of only the rich countries. Unfortunately, after a period of remarkable progress in most sectors, the rising trend in producing countries' net incomes could not be maintained, with the exception of the petroleum sector. This resulted in an increased imbalance in international trade and payments, which also generated serious distortions, the consequences of which all our countries are suffering to various degrees.

In the face of continued increase in the high cost of the means of production, the selling prices of our primary products are at best stagnant and more often in severe, even catastrophic, decline. How can we best fight against this perennial economic terrorism, or should I say this international trafficking, with its multiple facets and whose [words indistinct]. Export conditions for our coffee, cocoa, peanuts, cotton, iron ore and uranium--in short, everything upon which the economic development of the CEAO countries depends--have been declining and deteriorating, often at an extraordinary rate.

How many times, dear colleagues, have you drawn the attention of our partners to the persistent dangers of the situation? Who can listen to us again after all the North-South conferences have ended in failure? But even such an unfavorable international environment and such hostile natural factors will not be able (?to dissuade) us, despite the dimensions and weight of these factors, from continuing on the right road of our economic programs. Rather, these factors should motivate us to further unite our strength in order to overcome any additional obstacles to building our community.

Looking reality in the face, it will be noted that we have almost no choice; [word indistinct] will be realized that on this point the achievements recorded since our previous meetings show that there is real evidence of participation. Successive decisions adopted during the summits of Abidjan, Bamako and Nouakchott are gradually being implemented. The progress of FOSIDEC [Solidarity Fund for the Economic Development of the Community] to the operational stage, following the adoption of the first series of decisions on its fiancing, constitutes an important achievement.

In line with the mission entrusted to the secretary general at our last conference, the search for possible financing of the community's major projects was successful. The fund donors meeting that took place in Ouagadougou on 14 and 15 October was a demonstration of our success, as undoubtedly indicated by the international attention that the CEAO has been receiving from financial institutions and the bilateral assistance granted to our various projects. The results of these first contacts are extremely encouraging, and I am happy to express the profound gratitude of the conference to all those who listened to our cry and contributed to the resolution of our problems.

On the other hand, the progress achieved on trade within the community--which is greater than our average external trade--testifies to the vitality of our ties and to the progress made in the realization of the initial projects of the community.

Finally, the program for industrial development projects, which constitute an important factor in the realization of regional [few words indistinct] has made appreciable headway.

The past year has been full of uncertainties. An example of this is the financial uncertainty. As I have already said, the community, which is financed only by its member states, is unlikely to escape the consequences of economic and financial difficulties, but we cannot compromise the smooth running of our institution through negligence of of duty of those entrusted with our finances by not honoring our financial obligations to our own institution.

I am happy to pay public tribute to the great fervor with which all the avenues of cooperation have been exploited. How essential it is to always bear in mind the difference between hopes and possibilities. With different standards of development, our countries are all compelled to adhere to very strict financial uses of their income. This same approach should be adopted in the case of the community as well. In this connection, particular care must be taken to define the context within which the urgent demands and projects of the community should be placed.

As a result, contacts with (?inexperienced) bureaus or consultants who have little knowledge of our problems and possibilities are very often marked by suggestions [words indistinct]. This does not mean accepting poor quality development but adjusting our ambitions to suit our realities by strengthening unity among the nations and the secretary general in order to adopt as soon as possible, a financial program for the community covering several years. Our secretary, whose competence and activities we appreciate very much, will have at his disposal a cadre (?who will help) to select and determine the level of operations suggested by the community's institutions.

Dear presidents, ladies and gentlemen: The year that has just ended was disappointing, if not exacting, but undeniably fruitful and hope-inspiring for the CEAO. The cohesion and solidarity that I had wished for the future of the community [words indistinct] came true. This encourages us to continue vigorously the work that has been begun to achieve the objectives established by the Treaty of Abidjan, which serve as a contribution to implementation of the objectives of the region. [Words indistinct] which will enable Africa to be an efficient partner in the new international economic order--a partner who is often unaware of his own weight, but who, sooner or later, will be able to dominate and to take the lead through the expression of a positive willpower like ours.

May our deliberations be once more crowned with utmost success for the well-being of our peoples, of the whole of the CEAO, and of the development of inter-African cooperation.

Long live CEAO! Long live the friendship and solidarity of our peoples!

Final Communique

AB290835 Niamey Domestic Service in French 1200 GMT 28 Oct 80

[Final communique of the sixth summit of the West African Economic Community held in Niamey 27-28 October 1980; read by Moussa Ngom, CEAO secretary general--recorded]

[Excerpts] The sixth conference of heads of state of the West African Economic Community [CEAO] was held in Niamey on 27 and 28 October 1980 under the chairmanship of His Excellency Col Seyni Kountche, chairman of the Supreme Military Council, head of state of Niger, and current chairman of the conference. Participants in this conferenece are: for the Republic of Senegal, His Excellency Leopold Sedar Senghor, president of the republic; for the Republic of Mali, His Excellency Gen Moussa Traore, secretary general of the Malian People's Democratic Union and president of the republic; for the Islamic Republic of Mauritania, His Excellency Lt Col Mohamed Khouna Ould Haydala, chairman of the Military Committee for National Salvation and head of state; for the Republic of Upper Volta, His Excellency Joseph Issoufou Conombo, prime minister, represnting His Excellency Gen El Hadj Aboubacar Sangoule Lamizana, president of the republic; for the Republic of Ivory Coast, His Excellency Simeon Ake, minister of foreign affairs, representing His Excellency Felix Houphouet-Boigny, president of the republic. Also present at the conference as observers, for the Republic of Togo, His Excellency Tevi-Benissan, member of the Political Bureau of the RPT [Togolese People's Rally], minister of finance and economy, representing His Excellency Gen Gnassingbe Eyadema, president of the republic; for the People's Republic of Benin, Lt Col Isidore Amoussou, minister of finance, representing His Excellency Col Mathieu Kerekou, president of the republic.

The conference examined the report of the activities of the secretary general's office for the period 1979/80 as well as the results of the meetings of the 11th and 12th sessions of the Ministerial Council, which took place in Niamey on 20 to 28 April 1980 and 23 to 24 October 1980, respectively. The conference noted with satisfaction the progress achieved in realization of the fundamental aims defined by the treaty setting up the community and adopted decisions relating to:

First, the free movement of nationals of member countries of the community without any quantitative restrictions.

Secondly, priority to be given to integrated action and economic development. Especially high priority is to be given to the implementation of village water supplies and irrigation and the six community institutions established at the fourth conference of [word indistinct].

To this end, it congratulates the current chairman of the heads of state conference and the current chairman of the Ministerial Council meeting, the secretary general, and bilateral and multilateral public financial institutions for the encouraging results already achieved in the search for the necessary financial backing. In order to implement as soon as possible the village water supply and irrigation programs, which are very important to the six member countries of the community, the conference authorizes the current chairman of the heads of state conference to enter into the necessary financial commitments on behalf of the community in accordance with the proposals made by the Ministerial Council and in application of article 42 of the [few words indistinct] treaty.

Within the framework of its provisions, the conference charges the current chairman of the heads of state conference and the secretary general to negotiate and sign all financial agreements needed for the financing of the six community institution projects.

In view of the numerous priority projects drawn up within the framework of economic cooperation, the conference, in accordance with the proposals of the Ministerial Council, charges the General Secretariat to determine a program of the most urgent projects.

The conference adopted the [word indistinct] budget of the General Secretariat (?for financing our various projects).

Concerning the Solidarity and Intervention Fund for the Development of the Community, FOSIDEC, the conference renewed the annual endowment of 1.5 billion CFA francs and reaffirmed the orientations of the [words indistinct] It is pleased with the international momentum that this institution for finance and community development has achieved.

The heads of state congratulate the secretary general and his team for their dynamism, competence and availability. They particularly appreciate the quality of their work and the positive results they have obtained as a result of it.

The heads of state decided to assign the chairmanship of the conference to his excellency Leopold Sedar Senghor, president of the Republic of Senegal. The heads of state conference decided to renew the appointment of Mr Moussa Ngom, secretary general of the community, for another 4-year period. [applause]

The seventh heads of state conference will take place in Dakar in the second half of October 1981.

Their excellencies the heads of state of the Republic of Senegal, the Republic of Mali, the Islamic Republic of Mauritania; their excellencies the representatives of the presidents of the Republic of Upper Volta, the Republic of Ivory Coast, the Togolese Republic and the People's Republic of Benin, thank their brother and friend, Col Seyni Kountche, chairman of the Supreme Military Council and head of state of Niger, the members of the Supreme Military Council and the government, and the valiant Nigerois people for the warm, friendly and fraternal atmosphere with which they were received during their stay in the Republic of Niger.

Signed in Niamey on 28 October 1980.

KENYA

FOREIGN MINISTER COMMENTS ON RELATIONS WITH SUDAN

LD282326 Nairobi Domestic Service in English 1802 GMT 28 Oct 80 EA

[Text] The minister for foreign affairs, Dr Robert Ouko, has hailed the friendly relations that exist between Kenya and the Sudan. Speaking during a lucheon party hosted in his honor and in honor of the Sudanese delegation to the fifth Kenya-Sudan interministerial meeting, Dr Ouko said that the excellent relations which exist between the two countries have come about because of the cordial and sincere ties which exist between the people of Sudan and Kenya through the fraternal friendship of Presidents Moi and Numayri. He added that Kenya and the Sudan were led by dedicated leaders who were detemined to mind the welfare of their people and thus raise the level of their living standards. He said the current ministerial meeting between the two countries will improve political and economic relations of both Sudan and Kenya.

SOMALIA

BARRE SUPPORTS SAUDI KING IN CRITICISM OF AL-QADHDHAFI

LD281130 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 0450 GMT 28 Oct 80 EA

[Text] The secretary general of the Somali Revolutionary Socialist Party and president of the Somali Democratic Republic [SDR], Challe Muhammad Siad Barre, yesterday received a message from King Khalid welcoming the SDR's stand on the recent statement by the Libyan president, Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, concerning the pilgriamge issue. The SDR president had affirmed this stand in a message to King Khalid Ibn 'Abd al-Aziz of Saudi Arabia.

The SDR president had stated that he was surprised and shocked at the Libyan leader's statement belittling one of the major pillars of Islam, the performance of the duty of hajj. The yearly pilgrimage was not only of benefit to Muslim peoples but was obligatory for any Muslim capable of affording this religious rite, as enshrined in the Holy Koran.

President Siad has said that the call was totally unacceptable to any believer in the principles of Islam, as it did not heed the heavy responsibility of a leader of a Muslim country.

The SDR president said in his message: Speaking on behalf of the Somali people and of the Somali Government, I am totally against and condemn the statement made by Libyan President Al-Qadhdhafi in which he claimed that this year's performance of hajj was (?unholy). The president fully supported King Khalid's reply to Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi's insults against Islam.

In addition to his insults against Islam, President Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi had given full backing and support to Zionism and to the colonialists in the Horn of Africa--giving millions of shillings to destroy the unity of Muslims. There was also his continued opposition to the causes of the peoples of western Somalia, Abo and Eritrea [words indistinct] and his unpopular policies against the Muslims in Chad.

All these issues were clear proof of Al-Qadhdafi's violations and deviations from Islamic fundamentals. It was a fact that Muslims the world over and their leaders were completely opposed to Al-Qadhdhafi's wild statements.

The president concluded his message by wishing King Khalid good health and long life as a pioneer of the progress of the Muslim people.

CHAD

GOUKOUNI'S FORCES REPORT RECAPTURE OF TWO NORTHERN TOWNS

AB290642 Paris AFP in English 0631 GMT 29 Oct 80

[Text] Ndjamena, 29 Oct (AFP)--The towns of Oum Shawuba and Kalait in northern Chad have been recaptured by the troops of President Oueddei Goukouni, government sources said here. The sources said fighting in the northern regions has continued for several days, and the town of Faya-Largeau is surrounded by government troops directed by Adoum Togoi, commander of the Popular Armed Forces (FAP) of Mr Oueddei.

The sources denied charges by the army of dissident Defense Minister Hissein Habre, whose forces oppose those of Mr Oueddei, that Libyan planes had been involved in the northern fighting. They also denied that Mr Oueddei's faction knew anything about the series of air bombings in recent weeks against Mr Habre's troops in Ndjamena, where the two armies have been fighting for control for more than seven months.

PAN-AFRICAN YOUTH DELEGATION COMPLETES TOUR

AB280807 Brazzaville Domestic Service in French 1245 GMT 28 Oct 80

[Text] The first secretary of the UJSC [Union of the Congolese Socialist Youth], Comrade Gabriel Oba Aponou, returned to Brazzaville late yesterday afternoon from Yaounde, where he led a delegation of the Pan-African Youth Movement. The delegation presented a message from President Denis Sassou-N'guesso and another one from the African youth to President Ahmadou Ahidjo. The messages dealt with the Chadian issue. The Pan-African Youth Movement delegation led by the first secretary of the UJSC has already met the heads of state of the Congo, Zaire, Angola, Gabon and Cameroon. It could not, however, meet President David Dacko of the Central African Republic, in spite of the 48 hours spent in the Central African capital.

GABON

ARGENTINE MISSION DISCUSSES COOPERATION, TRADE

PY281701 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1800 GMT 24 Oct 80

[Text] Buenos Aires, 24 Oct (TELAM)--San Martin Palace has reported that Col Raul Cura, Foreign Ministry under secretary for international economic relations, was received in special audience by Gabonese President El Hadj Omar Bongo, to whom he delivered a letter from Argentine President Jorge Rafael Videla. During his stay in the African nation, Cura discussed with local officials the final text of a scientific and technical cooperation agreement, and found consensus regarding the need to conclude a cultural agreement as soon as possible for cooperation in that field because of the Gabonese need for and interest in receiving Argentine teachers.

A ceremony was also held during which a document on scientific-technical cooperation between the two countries was signed. During other meetings, possibilities were studied to increase bilateral trade, as well as Gabonese projects which could receive Argentine financing and cooperation. It was determined that there are good prospects for Argentine companies in that nation, particularly in the fields of farming, cattlebreeding, fishery and small and medium industry. He also had meetings with Mrs Horonine Dossou, secretary of state for foreign affairs and cooperation; Mamadou Diop, secretary of state for economy and finance; and with Michel Anchouey, minister of agriculture, waters and forests, among other officials.

The delegation headed by Colonel Cura began its African tour with visits to Senegal, Togo, Ghana, Nigeria and now Gabon. It will continue to Cameroon, Equatorial Guinea, Congo and Zaire, and will return home next month.

GHANA

PRESIDENT LIMANN ADDRESS TO SECOND SESSION OF PARLIAMENT

AB281404 Accra Domestic Service in English 1035 GMT 28 Oct 80

[Address by President Hilla Limann to the second session of Parliament in Accra on 28 October--live]

[Excerpts] Your Excellency the Vice President, Honorable Mr Speaker, My Lord the Chief Justice, honorable gentlemen and members of the Council of State, honorable leaders of political parties, honorable ministers and members of Parliament, Niimei [chiefs of the Ga traditional area], Nananom [chiefs of the Akan traditional area], Nanima [chiefs of the Northern Region] and elders, your excellencies members of the diplomatic corps, distinguished ladies and gentlemen, fellow citizens: First of all, I wish warmly to welcome honorable members back from their short recess which ended the last session of the first parliament of the third republic. Undoubtedly, you must have put the short break to profitable use in renewing contacts with your constituents so as to understand better and to acquire a deeper appreciation of their worries, fears and aspirations at all levels. You must also have taken the opportunity to explain the significance and the wider and more prominent implications of your deliberations and the legal enactments you made during your last session. Perhaps you know it now that we in the executive arm of state have not had the privilege to arrange any recess for ourselves, with the result that I was personally overpowered recently by [few words indistinct] an attack of flu which led to the total loss of my voice. The situation has, however, since sufficiently improved and I am able to be here to address you today. [laughter]

Kindly permit me to congratulate, Mr Speaker, honorable deputy speakers, leaders of all parties in Parliament, chairmen of the various committees of the house, and indeed all honorable members of Parliament and your support services for the commendable, often audacious and fearless role you have all played in making the first year of our third attempt at civilian democratic rule such a great success. [applause and shouts of approval] As I have recently had occasion to say, our third attempt at civilian rule is no longer an experiment but a reality, a viable going concern which has already attracted much interest, understanding and good will from our friends and well-wishers far and wide. We have achieved commendable progress in demonstrating to the entire world our preference for the representative form of government as the best system which guarantees freedom and justice, and under which we have also (?publicly) reaffirmed our strong belief in the principles of human rights as well as the merit and virtues of democracy. I therefore sincerely hope that during this second session honorable members will redouble their efforts to consolidate our past gains and go further to improve upon the progress made during the last difficult year in our efforts to establish democratic rule in our country on the (?secure) foundations of give and take, fair-mindedness and the spirit of compromise.

I wish, Mr Speaker, also to congratulate the judiciary for preserving the liberty of the individual and ensuring a large measure of justice and fair play to all in the face of many odds and intractable security problems. [shouts of approval] Naturally, in my capacity as head of the executive arm of the state, I wish also to congratulate the executive arm of state comprising ministers and administrators, who have exhibited much patience, tolerance, fortitude, forthrightness and maturity, and thus greatly helped in ensuring the success of the new civilian rule in Ghana throughout the past year. I would also like to place on record my gratitude to the chairman and the members of the Council of State, whose wise counsel has helped me to shoulder the onerous burden of my office. Their contribution has been proved valuable in achieving the stability and harmony that we enjoy today.

Our armed forces, the police and the other security agencies have also done commendably well [few words indistinct]. Since there is always room for improvement and high performance in all human activities, I hope that members and all other concerns will aim at doing better this session than they were able to do throughout last year. I extend the same exhortation of greater achievements to the members of the judiciary and all members of other institutions which form the executive arm of the state. Together, we should all constantly aim at all-round improvement in our performances so that our good should become better and our better best in our relentless (?search) toward perfection in all areas and at all stages of the national effort. I do sincerely hope and plead that the three arms of state in mother Ghana will work together in harmony with a singleness of purpose in our desire and effort to serve our people. To this end, it may be helpful if we all continually remember that a house divided against itself shall not stand, and also that the welfare of all Ghanaians is our raison d'etre and should therefore be the supreme guiding principle in forming all our activities and our conduct of public affairs.

As elected leaders of the nation, we cannot expect the majority of our people who barely live above the poverty line to make sacrifices while we demand privileges, some of which border on the excessive. We cannot justify our claim to be concerned with the plight and the aspirations of the people we represent if we exhibit an inordinate concern for our selfish needs, welfare and comfort. I therefore make an appeal to all of you that as leaders we have the duty to set examples of hard work, probity and sacrifice for the rest of our population to follow or emulate.

Mr Speaker, most of the decisions taken in this house during the past session were based on consensus reached among all the parties, often at my request and following appeals to honorable members through their leaders in Parliament. I feel honored that my views were often accepted in good faith and taken seriously. This approach should therefore not be taken as a sign of weakness on the part of any political party represented in Parliament. Far from being a weakness, it is a sign of political maturity and a lively appreciation of our social, economic, security and political problems which make it imperative for us not to seek to play to the gallery now. I therefore wish strongly to renew my appeal to the entire house to continue working in the spirit of cooperation and understanding which was often magnificently demonstrated during the last session of Parliament.

Mr Speaker, the People's National Party greatly regrets the unilateral decision of the United National Convention to abrogate the working relations [laughter and shouts] which had already existed for some time between the two parties (?before) I formally and publicly announced the formation of that alliance to the House last year. I stated that it had been found favorable to the national interest, which demanded cooperation, support and common approaches to problems from all sections of our community. I therefore wish vividly to (?leave) sentiment and reemphasize that alliance or not, we of the People's National Party hope and expect that we can continue to enjoy the support, good will and understanding of the National Convention and indeed of all the other parties, and of our entire population, in the arduous task of resuscitating the economy and rebuilding a reconciled and united nation in order collectively to tackle our national problems in the interest of all Ghanaians, irrespective of their individual political commitment, situation and preferences. [shouts of approval] As I have once cautioned, we must avoid turning this august house into one of dramatic and emotional demonstrations, or from turning it into a grand jury or permanent commission of inquiry rather than the supreme law-making body that it is. Other state machineries exist for both internal and external inquiries into matters of detail and of national interest affecting various state organs.

Mr Speaker, during the past year we have partly established law and order out of a dangerous security situation. We have only tried to bring some order and sanity into the chaotic economic situation into which the country had been plunged before our assumption of office.

We have therefore laid new foundations for the resuscitation of our economy and for the restoration of our national honor and respect at home and abroad. Mr Speaker, article 6, section 3 of the Constitution enjoins me to report annually to this august house on the steps being taken to realize the objective of ensuring the welfare of our people. I wish therefore to avail myself of this opportunity briefly to deal with some of the measures we have taken and also to highlight others we would like to emphasize during the coming year. It is my ardent hope that these broad policies, as sketched under various ministries, will form the guidelines along which this house will conduct its business during this second session of the Parliament of the Third Republic of Ghana.

Mr Speaker, due to lack of time and the present condition of my voice, I will not be able to read the full text of my address. I shall therefore present an abridged version of the address. I would like, however, to assure you that the full text has been printed and will be made available to honorable members soon. Mr Speaker, in my first sessional address last November, I declared that the next few years would form the first phase of our agricultural program, which is our top priority now and for the forseeable future for the intensive production of food and industrial raw materials. In implementing that policy statement, a national action program was [word indistinct] drawn up and formally launched [few words indistinct]. The support for the crop sector has been given a tremendous boost with the provision of inputs such as machetes, hoes, seeds, fertilizers, insecticides, machinery services, farm labor and credit facilities. [applause] About 2.5 million machetes have been imported into the country and, at the same time, import licenses worth 42.5 million cedis have been issued to bring in raw materials to feed our local machete factory. [laughter]

It is expected that these measures will go a long way to reduce our food deficit. As compared with 1979, our deficits in rice production are likely to come down from a level of 59,000 metric tons to 42,000 metric tons; millet and sorghum from 107,000 metric tons to 86,000 metric tons. We expect some surplus in root crops such as cassava and yam. Meanwhile, we have increased our support for the development of irrigation as an insurance against crop failures due to uncertainties in the weather pattern. Here, we have developed 1,000 hectares for crop farmers and 5 hectares of fish ponds. In (Tono), about 1,000 hectares have been fully developed for arable land. The (Propanga) irrigated scheme is being given a new impetus and we expect that about 500 hectares will be ready soon.

We shall continue to arrange for the importation of feed ingredients and drugs to support our livestock industry. Cattle development is also engaging the utmost attention of government, since this is by far the greatest source of our meat and protein requirement. As part of our long-term development program, I have directed the Ministry of Agriculture to institute measures to import breeder stock from our neighboring countries and thus establish a sound nucleus for our cattle development. The existing ranches will be assisted with the inputs they require to enable them to expand their operations and to help them in the production of (?meat).

The government has so far distributed approximately 2,000 outboard motors to canoe fishermen. This is in line with our policy of developing domestic fishing. The Ministry of Agriculture has allocated eight marine engines and (?five) million cedis' worth of import licenses have been issued for the importation of additional marine engines for locally built vessels. We have already taken delivery of one fishing trawler this year. We are expecting another trawler and two tuna vessels to be commissioned soon.

Mr Speaker, my government has carefully studied various reports of committees appointed to consider the establishment of an agricultural university to be established in the Northern Region. [shout of approval] The study reports and recommendations date as far back as the first republic, and were (?reviewed) very vigorously until 1974 [few words indistinct]. Given the importance we all now attach to agriculture, my government has reaffirmed a 1978 decision that such a university should be established as soon as our resources permit.

Mr Speaker, I drew the attention of Parliament last year to the seriousness of the fuel crisis facing Ghana and its adverse effect on our foreign exchange earnings by pointing out at that time that our oil import bill alone amounted to over 25 percent of our total imports. Since then, five successive and substantial increases have been made in the price of crude oil. This represents a total rise of $10 per barrel, despite our reduction in total consumption from 1.25 million metric tons per annum to 1 million metric tons per annum. There is no doubt, therefore, that we have to intensify the fuel conservation campaign and the search for alternative sources of energy [few words indistinct]. We have launched a national fuel conservation campaign since last April, and we therefore wish to appeal to the public to cooperate with this campaign in view of the seriousness of the energy crisis which now affects even rich oil-producing countries throughout the world. Since we have already passed the petroleum Decree Amendment Act to give legal backing to our fuel conservation measures, I hope that honorable members will take the lead and help arouse public awareness of the cause for such measures. The truth is that our present greatly diminished foreign exchange resources cannot afford these other increasing oil import bills, particularly in the face of the other very urgent competing demands being made on the same meager foreign exchange resources. We have allocated one million cedis in the current budget to finance the development of alternative sources of energy.

While these measures for energy conservation and search for alternative sources are being intensified, we have also greatly increased efforts toward prospecting for crude oil within our territorial waters and inland. Thus, the following oil exploration concessions have already been granted: 1) Philips Petroleum Company, 2) (Arafa) Petroleum Company; 3) Off-shore hydrocarbon Corporation; 4) Texas [word indistinct]; 5) Hydrotechnical (Brama) Incorporated. (?This) petroleum company is currently drilling its fourth well in the Half Assini area. Hydrotechnical plans to drill additional wells in the (Pontan) oilfield with the hope of increasing its crude oil output. (Arafa) Petroleum is expected to conduct seismic surveys very soon in its offshore block in Axim with the hope of drilling its test wells.

Mr Speaker and honorable members may also recall that last November, I highlighted the determination of my government to rehabilitate and revamp our gold, diamond, manganese and bauxite mines in order to take advantage of the current high world prices for these minerals. Accordingly, we have established a technical committee to examine the possibility of increasing output, particularly in the gold mining sector. A preliminary report submitted by the technical committee to the government is receiving serious and urgent attention. We are also committed to rehabilitating and revamping during the current financial year three of our previously abandoned mines [few words indistinct].

Mr Speaker, to improve upon the public transport system, the first batch of 10 buses out of a consignment of 200 have arrived from India and have started to operate. [applause] It is hoped that they will complement the services being provided by the Omnibus Services Authority's fleet of buses, most of which have broken down and are now being rehabilitated.

Mr Speaker, the rest of my address, which deals with steps being taken by government to improve the railway system, the lake transport facilities, and our national airlines, have been provided in the printed text. Extensive coverage has also been provided on measures to improve on the postal and telecommunications system.

The government has also solicited the assistance of the World Bank in the provision of loans to help the maintenance work of the Ghana Highway Authority. It is gratifying to mention that the World Bank has granted a loan of $25 million for the road maintenance program. [sentence indistinct] Import licenses amounting to 8.3 million cedis have also been issued to contractors working on trunk roads of great economic importance to enable them to order spare parts to repair their equipment.

Mr Speaker, as enshrined in the manifesto of the People's National Party and again emphasized in my sessional address last year, this government is determined to ensure the supply of good drinking water to our rural folk. In this regard, I am happy to note that the rural water project in the Upper Region under which 2,500 boreholes have been drilled is almost completed. It is expected that during this financial year, all the boreholes will be fitted with hand pumps. This will ensure that all communities with a population of around 1,500 and above will be near good drinking water.

Mr Speaker, when I last addressed you on labor and social matters, Ghana was afflicted by an acute and disintegrating tendency. I therefore have to avail myself of this august forum to appeal in the supreme interest of the nation for industrial peace and social harmony. I was personally aware that some of the demands being made by our daily rated and other workers were mostly justified because they had long been denied [words indistinct]. [sentence indistinct] Fully aware of these problems and injustices, my administration decided on assuming office to grant and honor all justifiable claims and demands [words indistinct] within the constraints of our national resources.

Mr Speaker, the problems of the Black Star Line, which we are bound to solve, are neither new nor isolated. I have the determination to solve many years of accumulated problems in the most humane way possible. This should not be mistaken to mean any weakness on our part as an elected government with a very clear political mandate. I therefore wish to insist that [words indistinct] for our merchant navy officers, and that some of them have already taken advantage of this and have been reemployed. I also wish to repeat my appeal to our labor movements that we need industrial peace an social stability to enable us solve our national problems. My administration derives a lot of good support and strength from the laboring masses, including farmers and fishermen.

Our aim is progressively to build up sound cost and price structures to at least the level of those of our neighboring countries, since Ghana cannot alone remain an island of ridiculously low infrastructural costs and commodity prices. I would like, Mr Speaker, to draw the attention of honorable members and indeed of the whole nation to the fact that Ghana cannot continue to exist in an atmosphere of ridiculously low prices while prices of similar commodities in our neighboring countries continue to rise. Such a situation only opens up avenues for the smuggling of our farm produce, locally manufactured and imported goods outside Ghana. The government has therefore been trying throughout the past year to restructure our economic system so that production costs, prices, as well as salaries are reorganized to bring them in line with conditions prevailing in our West African subregion. [shouts of approval]

Mr Speaker, as mentioned last November, my administration believes strongly in an effective communications system [words indistinct]. I am therefore happy to report that we have made considerable progress in our efforts to realize this noble objective, which will enhance our socioeconomic development and help out to maintain our freedom of thought and expression, particularly in the printed word. Mr Speaker, in fulfillment of that statement, the Press Commission has been duly established by an act of Parliament and inaugurated. I therefore fervently hope that the public will give it its selfless support to enable it to rise to the challenges facing it. As part of our determination to ensure a viable and vigorous press in the country, the private press houses have also been encouraged to form an independent press owners association, and I am happy to say that since its inception this association has, within our limited means, been provided with material help from the state-owned printing house. I expect and shall assist the association to benefit in its own right from the import license program. Aware also of the great interest of honorable members and our people in the operations of the Ghana Broadcasting Corporation, the poor state of the machines and equipment of that corporation shall be replaced or modernized. As of now, the Ghana Broadcasting Corporation has imported about 3 million cedis' worth of spare parts to rehabilitate its equipment. A team of experts from various companies has also recently visited the country to help us draw up plans for the modernization of the television and radio equipment of the corporation. The total amount involved in the rehabilitation and modernization program is likely to rise to over 100 million cedis, which will be carried out in three phases.

Mr Speaker, I am happy to inform this august house that the National House of Chiefs has already set the machinery in motion as provided by Article 178 of the Constitution to study, interpret and codify the customary laws of the land. My government, through the people's secretariat, will continue to assist the national and regional houses of chiefs to play their role efficiently as envisaged by the Constitution.

Mr Speaker, the part of my printed address on education covers quite a broad area. Permit me, therefore, to highlight and comment briefly on only two points which are of topical interest. The recent increase in boarding fees in certain [word indistinct] institutions has generated comments from various sectors of the public based on several misconceptions and inaccurate information. Thus, my government has wrongly been accused of going back on its promise to provide fee-free education as contained in our party manifesto. Permit me, honorable members, to emphasize that tuition is still free in all our educational institutions. In addition, textbooks are also provided free of charge [words indistinct]. But it must be reemphasized that the fee-free education policy enunciated even during the first republic by the late Osagyefo Dr Kwame Nkrumah [applause] never included free boarding at the secondary (?school) level, and that therefore parents still paid for the feeding of their children in boarding schools.

Since it is the policy of my government to strengthen the base of providing education for a greater number of people at the least cost by emphasizing day institutions, we feel it is morally wrong for the parents of those pupils, who are also taxpayers, to continue bearing the whole cost of feeding their children at home, while those whose children are already privileged to be admitted into boarding schools have to be heavily subsidized by government at the expense of the taxpayers, the majority of whom have not even had the benefit of going to school. [laughter] Nonetheless, government shall continue to provide substantial assistance to needy parents through a more effective and impartial implementation of the public scholarship schemes, including those of the Cocoa Marketing Board and other forms of assistance toward enabling indigent members of the community to derive maximum benefit from what the public spends on education. Our policy of reemphasizing boarding education at both the second and third (?pattern) institutions shall therefore be pursued vigorously.

Mr Speaker, government is greatly concerned about the exodus of teachers, especially to our neighboring countries, despite the efforts which are being made to improve upon their conditions of service. In our efforts to lessen the adverse effects of the alarming situation, government has decided to reengage all (?recently) retired teachers who are willing to return to the classroom. [shouts of approval] We have therefore decided that the responsible minister should draw up guidelines which will make it possible for the country to fully utilize the services of all Ghanaians with the necessary qualifications and experience who are willing to (?serve) and help.

Mr Speaker and honorable members may recall that in my first sessional address to you, I stated that our foreign policy draws much of its inspiration and guidance from some of the ideals of our past history, particularly as broadly outlined by the president of our first republic, the illustrious late Osagyefo Dr Kwame Nkrumah of blessed memory, who, among other things, declared that the independence of Ghana was meaningless unless it was linked up with the total liberation of Africa. [applause] Indeed, Osagyefo and the other founding fathers of modern Ghana had rightly drawn the logical conclusion that economic emancipation was an inevitable [word indistinct] to political independence. In fact, the one without the other is incomplete, insecure and meaningless, although--as rightly emphasized by the Osagyefo--political independence must necessarily precede economic emancipation. For this and other reasons, the PNP administration is determined to consolidate and maintain the independence and sovereignty of the state of Ghana as the foundation on which ot build and strengthen her political and economic relations, particularly with our neighboring brotherly countires, through permanent joint commissions of cooperation, through the ECOWAS [Economic Community of the West Africa states] and then with all Africa through the Lagos plan of action for the collective self-reliance and economic integration of our continent.

We must pursue this policy in the firm belief that no single African country can by its own endeavors alone achieve the economic development which is necessary for the maintenance of its political independence, particularly in the present austere and lopsided international economic order.

For the effective conduct of our foreign policy an efficient and (?cost-effective) foreign service is required. Our overseas missions are therefore being reorganized to bring about [words indistinct] expenditure cuts. The ambassadors and high commissioners who were recently appointed have been firmly and clearly directed to ensure financial discipline in the execution of their respective missions [words indistinct] at all levels. The new thrust in our foreign policy is to strengthen our economic viability, national stability and respect. This point has been outlined very clearly in the conditions of service and guidelines issued to our new envoys by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The content, organization and style of work imposed on the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and its missions abroad have also been reviewed to bring them in line with the objectives of this new foreign policy thrust.

Mr Speaker, given the [words indistinct] and the economic (?situation) we met on assuming office, we have managed to make appreciable progrss during the past year in reestablishing some measure of discipline in the financial administration of Ghana. [shouts of approval] As of now, our projection is that over the next few years an annual growth rate of 5 percent per annum in the gross domestic product can be obtained. [shouts of approval] By the end of 1979, the rate of inflation had dropped drastically from the 1977 record figure of 116.5 percent to 64 percent. At the end of my (?first) year, the rate recorded was 34.3 percent. [shouts of approval] We wish, however, to caution that many adverse factors may arise from the present [word indistinct] forecast of a worsening world economic situation and that, since such factors are entirely outside our power and control, our present projection may change either in our favor or much against us. [laughter]

We shall continue to channel more financial resources into the productive sectors, which include agriculture, mining, small scale industries, timber and the special case of the cocoa industry. These sectors shall enjoy substantial credit and foreign exchange facilities for their rapid expansion. As already mentioned, we have lain solid foundations for achieving improvement in our balance of payments through substantial increase in our export earnings, particularly from the production and export of gold and cocoa. In the 1980 import program, we have provided--at least in part--the requirements of the mining sector for imported raw materials and equipment. We hope that the 1981 import program will satisfy all the remaining requirements of that sector. We are thus striving hard to live up to our commitment of redirecting resources to the major productive sectors and to lay sound foundations for the resuscitation of the economy. We wish to assure all our foreign creditors and trading partners that the policy we vigorously and consistently implemented last year in discharging our outstanding external financial obligations will be continued and intensified. We believe that this policy of honoring our debts will open up more credit lines to enable us to provide enough goods for our empty shops.

As part of our drive to attract foreign investors, we have issued some guidelines and we ardently hope that the new incentives and guarantees [words indistinct] will sufficiently encourage potential investors to provide the much-needed financial and technical assistance and support to (?match) the efforts we are making to improve upon the social and living conditions of our people. Mr Speaker, we have [word indistinct] reestablished some confidence in our country within the international financial and investment circles. We hope and even expect that this good will will very quickly be translated into substantial material assistance to enable us to make all-round improvement in our [word indistinct] performance. Indeed, our foreign friends and (?partners) should realize that our people cannot wait indefinitely and that it is a mockery to preach human rights and the values of democracy to a hungry and starving people. [shouts of approval] On our part, we shall continue to strive toward improving upon public accountability at all levels, toward greater efficiency and higher productivity within our public corporations, and also toward the eradication of corruption from the public life of our society.

Mr Speaker, following extensive negotiations between the government, the Trade Union Congress and the Employers Association during the past year, government has now approved a new minimum daily wage of 12 cedis for workers. [shouts of approval] This minimum wage will take effect from 1 November 1980. [shouts of approval] However, I wish to emphasize that as a government we do not believe that high wages and salaries can alone provide satisfactory answers to our problems. The real answer lies in higher productivity and the rearrangement of our (?financial) priorities. I must also emphasize that the decision we have just taken on the minimum daily wage will produce very serious repercussions and far-reaching implications on an already weak economy. I should therefore like to take the opportunity offered me by this august forum to speak frankly to the whole nation and to reemphasize that acceptance the demands of the lower and middle level income group shall necessarily result in further increases in commodity prices.

I thank you most sincerely, Mr Vice President, Mr Speaker, honorable members of Parliament, your excellencies, distinguished ladies and gentlemen and all my audience for listening to me with so much rapt attention and sustained interest. Thank you. [applause]

NIGERIA

FOREIGN MINISTER CLARIFIES PRESENCE OF LIBYAN PLANES

AB281615 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1500 GMT 28 Oct 80

[Text] The Federal Government has commented on an allegation carried out by foreign radio stations that Nigeria was aiding Libyan military action in the Republic of Chad. In a statement in Lagos, the minister of external affairs, Professor Ishaya Audu, has described the allegation as false and unfounded.

[Begin Audu recording] [Words indistinct] a radio broadcast, in fact two--one version on the BBC Overseas Service and another version on the Voice of America--that Nigeria is aiding the passage of troops and military equipment from Libya to fight on the side of President Goukouni in Chad. This allegation, of course, is totally unfounded. Nigeria has persistently and consistently insisted that the quickest way to get peace in Chad is to avoid external interference in the conflict in Chad from any quarter whatsoever.

In fact, I may go so far as to let you know that at the (?very moment) there are two aircraft belonging to Libya which were caught by Nigeria. They are situated in Baga, near Lake Chad. These aircraft, according to the Libyan authorities, were trying to search for one other missing aircraft, and they strayed into Nigerian airspace, and according to them they ran out of fuel and they had to force land in Nigerian territory. They were promptly rounded up and detained by the Nigerian Government, and the Libyan Government has sent a special envoy to come and look into this. We have looked into the matter very carefully, and we are fully convinced that these aircraft has no aggressive intention. As a result, we have recommended to the president and he has agreed that these aircraft be released straight back to Libya. [end recording]

TOGO

OPPOSITION FIGURE ESCAPES ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT

AB272225 Paris AFP in French 1801 GMT 27 Oct 80

[Excerpt] Paris, 27 Oct (AFP)--A Togolese dissident, Mr Nati de Souza, was a victim of an assassination attempt in Abidjan on 21 October. This is stated in a communique issued today, Monday, in Paris by the Togolese Movement for Democracy (MTD), an organization opposed to the regime of President Gnassingbe Eyadema. Mr De Souza escaped unharmed from this attempt, the communique further states, but his driver was seriously wounded by bullets and was admitted to the Treichville University hospital in the Ivorian capital.

ANGOLA

PRESIDENTIAL ENVOY LARA RETURNS FROM MOZAMBIQUE

LD281124 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0530 GMT 28 Oct 80 EA

[Summary] Lucio Lara, organizing secretary of the MPLA Central Committee, returned to Luanda last night after a 4-day visit to Mozambique, where he delivered a personal message from President Jose Eduardo dos Santos to President Samora Machel.

SOUTH AFRICA

FOREIGN MINISTER COMMENTS ON KAUNDA 'ALLEGATIONS'

LD281352 Johannesburg International Service in English 1100 GMT 28 Oct 80

[Text] The South African minister of foreign affairs, Mr Roelof Botha, says South Africa's trade with the rest of Africa, reaching 1,000 million rand a year, makes light of the imputations against South Africa by radical African countries. Asked in an interview with Radio RSA whether South Africa was not helping her enemies by trading with African countries, particularly in the light of the latest Zambian allegations, Mr Botha said such trade was rather a weapon in South Africa's hands. President Kaunda alleged that South Africa had trained Zambians to overthrow his government. Mr Botha said South Africa would not trade with African countries at any cost, but at the moment it was in South Africa's interests to earn foreign exchange with which it could by weapons and machinery.

President Kaunda and other African leaders made a laughing stock of Africa by making such senseless allegations. That attitude also frightened away foreign investment. Even Russians would be aware that South Africa had had nothing to do with Zambia's problems.

ZAMBIA

KAUNDA DISCUSSES COUP ATTEMPT, S. AFRICAN INVOLVEMENT

LD282036 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 27 Oct 80 CA

[Text] President Kaunda revealed today that a group of armed men in collusion with some Zambian dissidents and the South African regime planned to overthrow the Zambian Government on the night of 16 and 17 October. Dr Kaunda told a press conference at State House that the gang's plans were thwarted after he received intelligence reports of intended attack and ordered the defense forces to move against the gang 24 hours before it could strike. The president said two members of the gang were killed and two others captured when members of the defense forces attacked them on 15 October near Chilanga.

Following this shoot-out, President Kaunda imposed a curfew on the major centers between Kafue and the copperbelt. Dr Kaunda said 40 more members of the gang have been captured with the assistance of villagers in [name indistinct] while 10 still are at large. He said those who escaped and others who moved out of the camp before the security forces pounced on them are now believed to be hiding somewhere in the Central Province and copperbelt.

The president said the gang, most of whom are Katangese rebels, were acting on behalf of some Zambian dissidents, who provided the political leadership. Dr Kaunda explained that according to the men captured by security forces the gang intended to attack State House, seize Radio Zambia, bomb Arrakan Barracks, the international airport and the homes of commanders of the defense forces. The president said some Zambians, including three members of the defense forces, have been arrested in connection with the foiled attacks. Dr Kaunda however declined to give more details on the men who are now in custody, but explained that they will soon appear in court.

The president also revealed that a former minister and [words indistinct] are being sought by police to help in the investigations, while the Lusaka correspondent of AGENCE FRANCE PRESSE, Francois Cros, was being held for questioning because he gave financial assistance to a leader of the gang.

He revealed that 2 nights before the planned attack the South African regime brought two boats and two ferries on the Zambezi river to provide backup support to the gang men. Dr Kaunda said that before the attack was to be made the South African authorities wanted to know how much support the dissidents had in the security forces. The president explained that in September South African troops in the Caprivi Strip sent several messages to Zambian forces of the Sesheke garrison calling for a meeting. He said: After the Zambian forces refused to meet them and instead asked them to pass their message through approved parties, the racist troops sent an ultimatum saying they would bombard Sesheke unless such a meeting took place. Dr Kaunda explained that the link between South African threats to attack Sesheke and this month's attempts to overthrow the government is a fact, and the racist regime has been supporting local antisocialist elements for a long time. He said South Africa's plans to destabilize Zambia started soon after independence in 1966 when the regime was spending about 10 million kwacha on efforts to incite workers and citizens.

He said the ZCTU [Zambia Congress of Trade Unions] leadership and the Zambian Federation of Employers are both aware that conditions of service of the public workers were being looked into. While representatives of workers in the private sector are free to bargain with their employers, Dr Kaunda said the stand by the ZCTU was contrary to the agreement reached earlier between him and the leaders of the labor movement and employers that all salary increases shall be backdated to 1 August this year. He said he wonders why after reaching this agreement some labor leaders were now declaring that they are prepared to go to prison or to die in the interests of the workers. The president said it was clearly evident that labor leaders were trying to call for a nationwide strike without any basis.

ZIMBABWE

TEKERE DEFENSE STATEMENT SUBMITTED TO HIGH COURT

LD290924 Salisbury Domestic Service in English 1745 GMT 28 Oct 80 CA

[Text] The legal defense team of Comrade Tekere today submitted a statement to the general division of the high court to the effect that the court has no jurisdiction to try Comrade Tekere and seven other comrades for the offenses charged by virtue of the provisions of Sections 3 and 4 of the Indemnity and Compensation Act No 45 of 1975. Under this act, no civil or criminal proceedings may be instituted or continued in any court of law against any official or person in respect of any act, matter or thing whatsoever advised, commanded, ordered, directed or done by him in good faith for the purpose of or in connection with the suppression of terrorism.

After discussing at some length the facts and circumstances leading to the death of Mr Adams, the statement spells out the two main reasons why Comrade Tekere or any of the seven comrades accused together with him did not hand the matter over to the police. The defense statement says that Comrade Tekere and some of his fellow ministers honestly believed that the police still displayed loyalty to the former administration and not exclusively to the present government and, second, that Comrade Tekere was aware that the minister in charge of the police was the person to whom Zipra elements--these were closely involved in the events leading to the death of Adams--continued to owe allegiance.

The defense statement ends by contending that if, contrary to the submission, the court wishes to satisfy itself on the evidence related to the material contained in the statement, then the accused [as heard] will call Comrades Tekere and Murambiwa [ZANU-PF member of the House of Assembly] as witnesses.